NEW METHOD
READER FIVE

By
MICHAEL WEST, M.A., D.PH. (OXON.)

Illustrated by
MRS. MICHAEL WEST



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The Readers.

Reader 1A (Primer). Exercises and Stories teaching the Alphabet and 222 words.

The Short Primer. Reader 1A slightly modified for children who already know the English alphabet.

Reader 1B. Stories, teaching a further 236 words.

Reader 2. Stories, Informative Articles and Poetry, teaching 315 words.

Reader 3. Stories, Informative Articles and Poetry, teaching 311 words.

Reader 4. Stories, Informative Articles and Poetry, teaching 343 words.

Reader 5. Stories, Articles and Poetry, teaching 364 words.

Reader 6. Adding 501 words.

Reader 7. The Vicar of Wakefield (Abridged).

The Companions.

A Companion is supplied for each Reader in order to facilitate home study. The Companion supplies Questions on the stories. Lists of all new words introduced in each lesson with pronunciation signs and vernacular meanings; also an Alphabetical Vocabulary of all words taught in the Reader which it accompanies, with meanings, and index numbers showing in what lesson each word made its first appearance. (The Companions can be supplied in any vernacular as required, also in a blank edition with spaces for writing in the vernacular meanings.)

The Supplementary Readers.

Each Reader is followed by a Supplementary Reader, containing stories and other amusing matter written entirely within the vocabulary taught thus far. (Thus the Supplementary Readers contain NO NEW WORDS.) These books are intended for pleasure reading, and to give greater facility in the use of the vocabulary acquired thus far.

The New Method Compositions.

The New Method Compositions teach the child to use in speech and writing those words which he has already encountered in his reading. Exercises are provided which teach the new words of a section; these are followed by guide words which help the child to give in English an account of the substance of the section. *The exercises are framed within the vocabulary already known, the only new word being that which is taught by the exercise.* They are so easy that mistakes are almost impossible. In order to prevent parrot repetition, a number of the exercises include certain amusing traps, or catches, for the unwary. These catches also amuse the children and keep the class very lively.

The Second Supplementary Readers.

When the child finishes his reading-book, he reads a Supplementary Reader in order to gain fluency in the *reading* of the vocabulary learnt so far. After finishing the Composition based upon the Reader, he may read another Supplementary Reader and re-tell its substance in English, in order to increase his facility in the *speaking and writing* of the vocabulary learnt thus far. The first Supplementary Readers are provided with questions as a test of reading; the first three of the Second Supplementary Readers contain guide words as a help to the student in re-telling the substance. For the last two the student is intended to devise guide words for himself.

The Handbook for Teachers.

This book gives an account of the procedure which experience has shown to be simplest and most effective in teaching the above reading-books.

CONTENTS

All the stories contained in this book have been so rewritten as to contain no ideas difficult or unfamiliar to foreign (especially non-European) children.

* The number of running words, divided by the number of new words.

IMPORTANT

1. Do not change the order of the lessons: do not omit lessons.

This book is so constructed that each lesson assumes that the child knows the words which have been taught in the preceding lessons.

2. Begin with the first book.

Each book of the series assumes that the child knows all the words which have been taught in the preceding books. It is therefore necessary, in order to obtain the best results, that a child should study—or acquire the vocabulary of—the earlier books before going on to the later ones.

Teachers are earnestly advised—

1. To see that every child possesses a copy of the *Companion* (as otherwise much time will be lost in unnecessary blackboard-writing).

2. To follow the Lesson Plans set out in *The Teacher's Handbook*, unless there is some definite reason for deviating from them.

The divided sections, e.g. D[1], D[2], on pages 53, 55 are divided only for purposes of Composition Work. (See New Method Composition 3.) They should be treated as single units in reading.

THIS BOOK

adds to the 773 words taught in Readers I-A, I-B and II a further 311 words, making a total of 1,084 words (including 930 out of the 1,000 commonest words in the English Language).

THE NEW METHOD READERS

You now know 1415 words from Readers I-A, I-B, II, III and IV.

1. GARETH AND LINET

A

Long long ago there lived in England a great king called King Arthur. King Arthur had a Round Table at which one hundred and fifty knights could sit. These knights of the Round Table assisted the King in all things, and they assisted also anybody who was in trouble and came to the King asking for help. So anybody who was in trouble used to go to King Arthur and claim the help of one of these knights; and nobody went unassisted.

Assist
-body
Claim

It was a great honour to be made a Knight of the Round Table. Nobody could claim a place at the table except those of noble rank, of good character, and of great fame as men-at-arms.

Gareth was the son of King Lot and Queen Bellicent. One day he stood

near his mother's chair and said, "O mother, I am no longer a child. Will you assist me to become one of King Arthur's knights?"

Proof

She replied, "Before I can claim this honour for you, I claim some proof that you are worthy of it. As a Knight of the Round Table you will have to promise to love the King and to obey him. I claim a proof that you really know how to obey."

"Claim a hard proof," answered Gareth; "claim a hundred proofs, if only I may go to King Arthur's court."

Royal Palace . . . Hire



His mother answered, "This shall be my proof. You must go to King Arthur's royal palace dressed as a poor man seeking somebody who wishes to hire a servant. You must become a hired servant in the kitchen of the palace, and serve among the hired men there for twelve months."

Gareth replied, "Those hired in body may be free in soul. You are my mother, and I obey you. So I will go and become a hired servant in King Arthur's royal palace."

B

On the next day Gareth arose at dawn, and dressed himself as a servant. Soon he was making his way across the

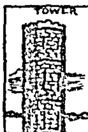
plain towards the royal city of Camelot, where King Arthur's palace was.

Mist. . .



The mist of morning lay thick around him. A misty curtain hid the town so that not even the roofs nor highest towers could

Tower . .



be seen. The sun grew stronger, colouring the mists with rose and gold. The tower of King Arthur's palace appeared as a high rock up-standing in the misty sea. Then, as day came in its strength, the mists were rolled away, and royal Camelot, with glimmering towers and shining roofs, stood clear before him.

Main

Gareth entered the main gate and found himself in the main street of the town. Knights passed him wearing full armour. Pages hurried by, running to serve their masters. Fair ladies looked

(Up-p-er)

down from the upper windows watching the busy hurry below.

Arch



At last he reached the royal palace, and entered the main hall. Great arches arose above him and became lost to sight in the upper darkness. Beneath these gigantic arches was gathered the court of King Arthur. And, far over the heads of the people in that arched hall,

near his mother's chair and said, "O mother, I am no longer a child. Will you assist me to become one of King Arthur's knights?"

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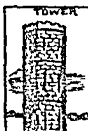
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Gareth saw the splendid form of Arthur himself.

(Arch-way) Push

For some time he stood in a small archway, for the crowd was pushing him and struggling all around, and he needed rest. When he had rested, he felt that he could push also. So, being big and strong and able to push harder than anybody, he soon found himself at the front.



C

Many people pushed their way out from the crowd, making various claims against each other before the King, or praying the King to assist them in various ways. At last Gareth obtained his chance. He fell on his knees before the King, and said,—

"O King, I have but a simple thing to ask—an easy claim,—that you will let me work among the hired servants in your kitchen for one year."

The King looked at him, and then replied, "You seem to be a fine strong youth, and might have asked for something more. But, since that is all, I grant it. You will be in the charge of Sir Kay,—for he has charge of the kitchen."

Charge (Sir)

So Gareth became a servant in the kitchen, ate his meals by the door, and slept where he could among the hired

servants. But Sir Kay, who had charge of the kitchen, did not love Gareth, and treated him badly. He charged him with more work than anybody else. He gave him all the heaviest and dirtiest tasks. But Gareth obeyed without complaining.

When just one year had passed, King Arthur one day sent for Gareth, and said, "Gareth, your mother has told me about you. You wish to become one of my knights. Remember that my knights

Trial have suffered hard trials and they have to make hard promises. They promise

Utter to live lives of utter faithfulness and utter loyal-ty to me, their King. They promise to obey me utterly."

Gareth replied, "O King, as for obeying utterly, only ask Sir Kay how I have obeyed him this long year. And, as for trials, only give me a trial."

"You shall have a trial," said the King.

D

On that same evening there came into

Maiden.. the main hall a maiden of high rank. The maiden was so beautiful that all

Gaze ... gazed at her in wonder.





"My name," said the maiden, "is Linet. I come to ask you to send your bravest knight, Sir Lancelot, to

assist me. For my sister, Lyonors, is held a prisoner by four huge knights. To reach her you must pass three huge rivers, and each river is guarded by a knight. They call themselves, Morning Star, Noon Sun, and Evening. But the fourth, who guards the gate, is said to be the most huge and terrible of all. He is called Night. He rides on a huge black horse, wearing black armour painted with the bones of a dead man. And that—" she ended, gazing at Sir Lancelot sitting in his place near the King,—" that is why I ask for Sir Lancelot."

Huge

E

Then Gareth cried, " O King, let me make this attempt."

" Go then," said Arthur.

The maiden gazed at Gareth. She saw him as a servant of the kitchen. For a moment she turned her gaze upon King Arthur.

Then, " Shame !" she cried. " I asked for Lancelot, and you have given me a hired kitchen lad !" And she fled from the hall.

Instant (Instantly)

Just at this instant a page came to Gareth, and said, " The King has sent a horse and armour for you."

Gareth went out instantly. He put on his armour and instantly returned to the hall to bid farewell to King Arthur and the knights. He went also to say

Farewell

farewell to Sir Kay; but he could not find him. A few instants later he was riding away following the Lady Linet. And all the hired men of the Court, with whom he had served, waved him farewell from the walls.

F

A few instants after Gareth rode out of the town, Sir Kay hastened after him. Sir Kay was wearing his armour. He was very angry that this kitchen lad, who had been in his charge, should be given trial as a knight. He thought, "He is only a hired man and will not know how to fight. I will go instantly and teach him a lesson!"

Approach Sir Kay quickly approached Gareth as he rode over the plain. As he approached he shouted to him:—

"Do you know me, kitchen lad?"

Gareth waited for him to approach yet nearer.

"Do you know me, hired man?" shouted Sir Kay, again.

"I know you," replied Gareth, seating himself more firmly in his saddle; "I know you as a most ungentle knight!" And at the same instant he lowered his spear and rode fiercely at Sir Kay.

Saddle

(To lower)



H

The two knights lowered their spears and rode at each other. They rode up the two opposite sides of the bridge, and met in the centre. Their spears struck each other with such force that both were thrown from the saddles. Gareth was the first to leap up and draw his sword, but an instant later the other knight leapt up also.

Leap . . . (Leapt)



Gareth leapt upon his foe and gave him such fierce **strokes** with his sword that he drove him backwards down the bridge.

A stroke.



"Well fought!" cried the maiden, "well fought, kitchen lad!"

Gareth's shield was cut in half by a powerful stroke, but at the next stroke he laid his enemy on the ground.

I

"Do not take my life," cried the knight. "I yield."

Pardon

"I will grant you pardon," replied

Beg

Gareth, "if this lady begs me to pardon you. Do you beg me to pardon him?"

"Rude fellow," cried the lady, "why should I beg you to pardon anybody? Why should I beg anything of you?"

"Then he shall die," said Gareth, lifting up his sword.

"Then pardon him . . . I beg it of you. I beg you to pardon one who is of nobler birth than yourself."

Birth

"He is not of more noble birth," said Gareth. "But, because you beg me to pardon him, and because it is my greatest pleasure to do all that you command, therefore I spare his life."

They rode on.

"I thought," said the Lady Linet, "as I watched you fighting on the bridge, that perhaps the smell of your kitchen came to me a little fainter. But, when you made me beg his life of you, the smell became a thousand times stronger than before."

J

Mid-
-less

It was midday. The fierce midsummer sun shone high in a cloudless sky. The plain was tree-less; there was no shade nor shadow anywhere. At last, through the pitiless (pity-less) heat, they approached the second river.

There was no bridge, for the water was not deep. The stream rushed with ceaseless whispering over a ston(e)y course.

On the opposite bank, huge on a huge red horse and all in mail, sat Midday Sun. His bright armour blazed in the sunlight. Upon his shield was painted a picture of the blazing midday sun. From across the stream he shouted, "Who are you? What are you doing here?"

Blaze

Lady Linet replied, "This is a kitchen lad from King Arthur's court. He has conquered your brother, and he hopes to do the same to you."

The knight's face blazed with anger. "Ho!" he cried, as he pushed his horse across the stream, "he hopes much."

Gareth rode forward and met him mid-way. There was no room to use spears. They fought with swords in mid-stream. Gareth gave him four fierce strokes, and the fourth sent Midday Sun down, and his horse also, into the water.

K

"It was not your stroke which threw him down," said Lady Linet; "his horse fell under him."

Weary



Gareth was weary of the lady's rude words, and made no reply.

Fade

They went on. The sunlight faded from the blaze of midday to the gentle gold of afternoon. Afternoon faded to evening, and the flowers, faded with the heat of the

day, hung down their weary heads. They climbed a great hill, their long shadows struggling wearily beside them on the grass. From the hill-top they looked down upon a broad plain and a wide river, flowing half hidden amid the mists of evening.

(A-mid)

L

As they approached, Gareth saw upon the bank of the river a man seated upon a horse. He sat there very still and quiet, casting a gigantic shadow upon the still water of the river. So still he sat, as if he were a lifeless thing cut out of stone. He wore no armour; indeed his body seemed to be completely bare.

Still

"Is he mad?" said Gareth. "Why does he sit there with bare skin?"

"His skin is not bare," replied Linet; "he is covered with leather. The leather is so hard that no sword can cut it. And the suit of leather fits him like his own skin."

Leather

The knight, Evening, mistook Gareth for his own brother, and shouted, "Ho, Midday Sun, why have you deserted your place?"

"This is not your brother," answered Linet: "It is a lad who has come from King Arthur's court, and has brought ruin upon your two brothers. Will you be conquered also by this youth?"

"Arm me," cried Evening.

Then from an old and faded tent,

there came forth a wrinkled, bon(*e*)y old woman. She brought to him old and faded armour, red with decay. On his shield was painted in faint colours the Evening Star.

M

Dash

Ere

The two knights dashed at each other. Evening was pushed from his saddle and dashed to the ground by the force of Gareth's spear. Leaping up instantly he dashed forward again ere Gareth had had time to draw his sword. But, ere he struck one blow, Gareth was ready. They fought long and fiercely. Often Gareth dashed him to the ground with his powerful strokes; but, ere Gareth could stand over him and end him, Evening had leapt up ready to fight again.

Urge

Gareth became weary. He feared that his strength might fade ere the other knight was conquered. Then Linet began to urge him, crying, "Strike hard! Strike harder! His armour is old and worn. He also is weary."

To tear . . (Tore, Torn)

Then, at her urging, Gareth's might returned. His sword began to



tear great pieces from the knight's armour. Still Linet urged him with fierce words. He tore the shoulder-armour from the shoulder. He tore the arm-piece

from the arm. The next great stroke had torn the breast-piece away, and his blade began to strike the leather covering. But the leather was so hard that he could not cut or tear it.

Blade . . .



"Strike harder," urged Linet. But it was useless, for his blade beat uselessly upon the leather skin and could not tear it.

(Use-less)

N

Evening laughed. He lifted his blade for a great stroke. But the blade struck Gareth's blade. Fire flew out, and the blade of Evening's sword was broken off in his hand.

Then Evening dashed at Gareth, seized him in his arms, and tried to tear with his fingers at Gareth's neck. But Gareth seized him round the body, raised him from the ground and dashed him from the bridge down onto the stones below. And he lay still and lifeless.

"Lead, and I follow," said Gareth. "Show me where the fourth knight is."

"No," answered Linet, "you shall ride at my side, for you are a very true knight, and I am sorry that I have spoken to you so rudely. I beg you to forgive me."

Sorry

Forgive

"Indeed, Lady," answered Sir Gareth, "there is nothing that you should be sorry for, and nothing for me

to forgive. It is I rather who should be sorry, and ask you to forgive, if I have in any way caused you shame."

Behave
Worse
(Worst)

"What sort of man are you?" said the Lady. "For never did maiden behave worse than I; yet, even when I have behaved worst, you have always behaved very gently to me. No one could behave so gently unless he were of noble or of royal birth."

"Do not speak any more of being sorry or of forgiving," answered Gareth; "for, if you spoke hard words, those only made my blows harder. Speak now your hardest words so that I may be able to conquer Night, that last and worst of these four knights."

O

"Night is indeed the worst of the four," answered the maiden. "For it is said that he has the strength of ten men. Let us first rest and eat, before you go further to this worst trial of all."

They rode up the hill-side in the gathering darkness, and came to a little cave. Linet lit a fire, and brought food and wine which she had carried at her saddle. And they ate, sitting side by side, looking down upon the plain lying so still and quiet in the fading light.

The moon rose up into the sky, and they set forth again upon their pilgrimage.

Castle

At last Lady Linet raised her arm and pointed. "There is the castle," she said.



Gareth saw a castle towering up huge against the moon-lit sky. High in the castle's highest tower shone a faint light: from that window Lady Lyonors was gazing down. The gate of the castle was shut. In front of it stood a black tent. Near the door of the tent hung the

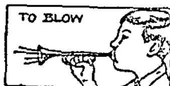
Horn . . .

horn of some gigantic beast; and beside it was written, "HE WHO would MEET WITH DEATH SHOULD blow THIS HORN."

(Would)



(To blow)



Gareth seized the horn and blew it.

Thunder

Issue

A sound like thunder issued forth into the midnight air. It thundered among the arches of the castle. A light appeared in the black tent. Again the thunder issued from Gareth's lips. Lights leapt up in the windows of the castle.

Yet again the thunder sounded.

Figure

Then, from the door of the tent, slowly issued forth a terrible **figure**.

The figure rode upon a **black** horse, black as midnight. His was black as midnight also; painted the figure of a

the face should have been, were wide white teeth set in a death-like smile, and sightless gazing eyes !

P

To utter Terror . .



Linet uttered a cry of terror.

The figure issued forth into the moon-light, without uttering a sound.

"Fool !" cried Gareth. "They say you have the strength of ten : can you not trust your strength ? Why do you prefer to make yourself a figure of terror with these foolish things ?"

Still Night uttered no word nor sound.

Gareth rode forward. Linet closed her eyes in terror. When she opened her eyes again, she saw Gareth's spear dashing Night upon the ground.

(Halves) One stroke of Gareth's sword tore the iron head-piece in two halves. And out of it issued the bright face of a boy, fresh as a flower.

The boy cried out in terror. "Oh Knight, forgive me, I beg you ! Pardon me ! Do not take my life. My brothers made me do it, so that nobody might dare to come to the castle because of the terror of me."

Rejoice Linet rejoiced to see Gareth safe.

Lyonors rejoiced because she had gained her freedom. There were great rejoicings in the castle for eight days.

After all these rejoicings were ended, Gareth said farewell to the Lady Linet and to Lady Lyonors, and went back to Arthur's court.

Some people, who tell this story, say that Gareth married the Lady Lyonors.

But I have heard that he married Lady Linet.

(Told from Tennyson's "Idylls of the King")

You now know 1474 words

2. POEM.—THE DEATH OF ARTHUR

A

King Arthur had to go on a journey out of England, and he left Sir Modred to rule for him while he was away. Sir Modred told the people that Arthur was dead, and tried to make himself King.

Arthur hastened back to England, and fought a great battle against Sir Modred and his army. Sir Modred was beaten; but all the knights of the Round Table were killed, except two, Sir Lucius and Sir Bedivere.

At the last moment, in killing Sir Modred, King Arthur was wounded. Knowing that he was going to die, Arthur ordered the two knights to carry him down to the edge of the lake. He told Sir Bedivere to throw the

wonderful sword, Excalibur, into the water. Sir Bedivere did this; and a hand rose up from the water, seized it and carried it down.

A black ship came to the shore of the lake where Arthur was lying. In it were three queens, dressed in black, weeping. Arthur was placed on the ship.

Sir Bedivere knew that all his fellow-knights had been killed, and that his King also was near death.

And he said, "Where shall I go now?—

"For now I see the true old times are dead;
And I, the last, go forth companionless,
The days grow dark around me—and the years—,
Among new men, strange faces, other minds."

B

Arthur replied,—

"The old order of things changeth (changes), and a new order takes its place; for God has many different ways of fulfilling His wishes. A custom may be very good; but even the best custom should not continue for ever: the best custom, if continued too long, will corrupt men.

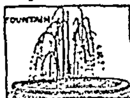
(Order)

Fulfil

Corrupt

Comfort yourself. It is useless to comfort me, for I am dying. May God make pure the deeds which I have done in my life.

Wrought — Pray for me. More things are wrought (done) by prayer than people ever imagine. Therefore let your voice be like a

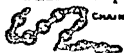


Fountain — fountain, rising in prayer by day and by night. Sheep and



Goat . . . — goats do not know of God, and do not pray: men know of God, and should pray for themselves and for their friends. If men do not pray to God, they are no better than sheep or goats.

Thus the prayers of men are like



Chain — golden chains. For by these golden chains of

Bound — prayer men are bound to the feet of God."

POEM

"THE DEATH OF ARTHUR."

BY LORD ALFRED TENNYSON

And slowly answered Arthur . . . .
"The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils himself in many ways,
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.

Comfort thyself: what comfort is in me?
I have lived my life, and that which I have done
May he within himself make pure!—But thou,
If thou shouldest never see my face again,
Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by
prayer
Than this world dreams of. Therefore let thy voice
Rise like a fountain for me night and day.
For what are men better than sheep or goats,
If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer
Both for themselves and those that call them friend!
For so the whole round world is every way
Bound by gold chains about the feet of God."

You now know 1481 words

3. THE HAIR

A

Fine
Example

Examine the skin carefully almost anywhere on your body, and you will see that it is covered with very fine hairs. There are, of course, some places where there are no hairs, for example the under-side of the feet, and the inside of the hands and arms: but there is hair almost everywhere else.

Fur . . . .

-ion (Indication)

Most animals are covered thickly with hair, or fur. The fine hair, which we see all over our bodies, is an *indication of our past*



history. It indicates that the earliest men on the earth were probably covered all over with hair, like animals.—The earliest men lived many many thousands of years ago. They lived in forests and in caves. They were almost animals. We are descended from them, although we have changed much since then.

B

(Protection)

Hair is a protection to the body. It is a protection against the cold. With men clothes have taken the place of the animals' fur. The earliest form of clothing was very simple: it was merely the skins of dead animals with the fur on them.

(Perfection)

Since then clothes have reached greater perfection. We cut off the hair, or fur,

Wool . . .

or wool, of the animal and make it into cloth. For example, wool is *the hair of a sheep: so*



when we put on a coat made of wool, we are wearing a sheep's hair. Some very fine wool is made of the hair of a special kind of goat. Nearly all warm clothing is made of wool. Man has never been able to find anything better than wool for keeping himself warm.

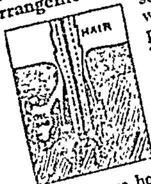
Sense (Common sense) **(Judgement)**

Now if you have any sense—any "**common sense**"—you will be able to guess the answer to this question. The answer is not a matter of knowledge, but just of common sense. Common sense means **judgement** and power of thinking clearly. The question for your common sense is, "Why is it more important for an animal to know of movements *opposite* to the natural direction of his hair, than to know of movements in the *same* direction as the hair?"[1]

E

(Arrangement) **Constant** **Tiny** **Hence**

Some people put oil on their hair to make it look nice. This is not really necessary, for the hair has its own **arrangement** for getting a **constant** supply of oil. Just where each hair is planted in the skin there is a **tiny** bag. This tiny bag contains oil, and it pours out a constant stream of oil onto the hair. The stream of oil flows more rapidly



when we are hot. Also any movement of the hair causes it to flow more quickly—as when you brush your hair. This oil keeps the hair soft and healthy. **Hence** you learn that brushing is very

[1] *The answer is given on page 37 of the Companion.*

good for your hair. The mere act of brushing your hair gives it the oil which it needs. This is an improvement on buying hair-oil in a shop, isn't it? This oil costs nothing, and it is the best oil, —for it is the hair's own natural oil.

(Improvement)

Lack

Hence, even if you lack money, you need never lack the best hair-oil!

F

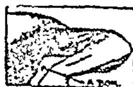
This oil is the hair's natural food; hence it is important to make sure that it may not lack a constant supply. If you do not keep your skin clean, the tiny pipes of the oil bags will be blocked. If the pipe is blocked, the oil cannot come out. Hence the hair, lacking its natural food, dies. If you wash your skin with hot water, these tiny pipes will not get blocked. It is dirt that blocks them.

To block



Disease

We know that the seeds of disease live in dirt. If your skin is dirty, the seeds of disease will find their way down in the little oil-bags, and will grow there. Then there will be a big swelling all round the root of the hair. Such a swelling is called a "boil". Boils are



A boil ...

always formed at the root of hair; they come when the seeds of disease pass down into the root and oil-bag of a hair.

Frequent

The cause of boils is most frequently lack of washing. If you wash your skin frequently, you wash away the seeds of disease which cause boils.

Boils are also—less frequently—caused merely by lack of strength and health in your blood. However frequently you wash, there are always a few seeds of disease left on the skin. If there is no strength in your blood, it cannot deal with even these few; but they grow and cause boils.

(Pain-ful)

Boils are very painful, and they make you feel very ill and uncomfortable. They are nature's painful lesson, teaching you to keep your skin clean, and to keep your blood healthy.

G

Advice

Let us see what good advice we can collect from our study of the hair.

(To Advise)

Our first piece of advice is this—you are advised to keep your skin and your hair clean. But I have some advice to add to this. I advise you not to wash the hair on your head too frequently when the weather is cold

Daily

Daily washing in cold weather may make the hair too dry. For washing takes away all the natural oil and in one day the tiny oil-bags do not have time to form a

(weekly) new supply. Hence the oil on the hair daily grows less and less. Weekly washing is enough when the weather is cold. In hot weather the oil is formed more quickly; so daily washing does no harm. The second piece of advice which we have to offer is this—you are advised to brush your hair very frequently, and to brush it hard;—and to use a hard hair-brush.

If you follow this advice, you will not lose your hair, as so many people do, when you are old.

You now know 1503 words

4. ULYSSES AND THE CYCLOPS

A

Final
Means

For ten years the Greek armies lay before the city of Troy, and finally they took the town by means of a trick. For Greek soldiers were brought secretly into the city by means of a large wooden horse,—hidden inside the horse. A final attack was made, both from within and from outside. And so, after ten years of war, Troy was finally destroyed, not by might in battle, but by foul means.

Foul

The Greeks began to depart. The great Captains went on board their ships and sailed away, one after another. And

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finally Ulysses brought his men down

Harbour . .



to the **harbour** and went on board. He had *twelve ships lying* in the harbour, and each ship carried fifty men. But the ships were foul from lying so long in harbour, and the men were weary.

As soon as they got outside the harbour, foul weather came and drove them far from their course. For many days they were driven about by wind and waves. *Finally*, when the sea

Smooth

became **smooth** *again*, they saw in front of them two islands, set like green jewels in the smooth blue sea. On the south side of the larger island was a fine harbour, in which smooth yellow sand came down to the water's edge.

B

The ships sailed into the harbour, and Ulysses ordered

Drag. . .



his men to **drag** them up onto the sand *for fear of foul weather*. Eleven of the ships were dragged up; but he did not have his own ship dragged up, because he wished to go in it to *visit the other island*.

The men had eaten no *fresh meat for*

Dozen

Kid . . . .

many days. So they set out in a dozen separate parties to see what they could find for food. They found a number of kids, and they brought two dozen of these kids down to the shore. There they killed them, cooked them and had a great feast. After the feast of kids' meat they slept on the smooth sand.

Description

(Cyclops, Cyclopes)

As soon as day dawned, Ulysses chose four dozen men, who were most eager to see new things and were not afraid. Then he set out to visit the other island. For he had heard a **description** of an Island of the **Cyclopes**, and he thought from the description that this island must be it.



The description was of a small island lying near another island; and in the centre of the island there was a great mountain, **sloping** down to the sea. On the north the slope was steep and the ground rough; but on the south the slope was less steep, and the ground was smooth pasture-land. In the side of the hill, according to the description, there were caves, in which dwelt the Cyclopes.

Slope . . .



Pasture . .



C

The Cyclopes were described as giants, having only one eye set in the middle of their **foreheads**, very terrible to **behold**.

Forehead
Behold

As Ulysses came nearer to the shore of the island, he saw that it was even as the description had said: fine pasture-land sloped gently down to the sea, and in the side of the hill he **beheld** dark marks, which must be the entrances of caves.

(Beheld)

When the ship came in to the shore, Ulysses chose a dozen of his boldest men to go with him, and left the rest to guard the ship. Then he set off with his dozen bold companions to visit the Cyclopes. He had a sword at his side, and on his shoulder he carried a great **skin** of wine, sweet-smelling and strong, with which he might win the hearts of any strange people dwelling in the place.

Bold
(A skin)

He beheld one of the caves of the Cyclopes not far from the shore. He approached it boldly and looked in. It was huge and deep. It seemed to be the dwelling place of some rich shepherd, for Ulysses beheld many **pens** for sheep, and other places in which goats were penned. And he beheld

Pen . . . .



other separate pens for the kids, divided up into the smaller pens for kids of various ages. Along the walls he saw

Vessel . .



vessels full of cheese, and other vessels for milk; and in the coolest part of the cave he found vessels full of fine butter.

The Cyclops himself was away at the pasture. The companions of Ulysses begged him to depart, taking with him as many of the kids and lambs from the pens as they could carry. But Ulysses would not go, for he wished to wait until the Cyclops himself returned from the pasture, so that he might behold him and know what sort of man he was.—Indeed he beheld him, but at a great cost!

D

Evening drew near, and they beheld the Cyclops returning from the pasture. He was twenty feet high, and had one huge eye set in the middle of his forehead. On his shoulder he carried

Log . . . .



logs for his fire: these logs were huge trees torn up by the roots.

The Cyclops threw down the logs with a great noise near the entrance of the cave. Then he drove the sheep and the goats into their pens; and, when they were all in their pens, he blocked up the entrance of the cave by means of

C

Forehead **Behold**

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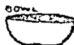
The Cyclops threw [illegible] with a great noise near [illegible] the cave. Then he [illegible] and the goats into their [illegible] all in [illegible] ance of

(To milk)



a great rock which fifty men could not have pushed away. Then he milked the sheep and the goats, and poured half of

Bowl . . .



the milk into bowls ready for cheese-making, and half into a great bowl to drink it with his supper. He set the bowl of cheese-milk beside the wall, and the bowl of supper-milk in the middle of the cave. Then he lit a fire of logs.

Flame . . .



The flames leapt up from the dry logs almost to the roof of the cave, and by the light of the flames the Cyclops beheld Ulysses and his companions.

"Who are you?" demanded the Cyclops in a terrible voice. "Are you thieves or traders?"

"Behold us," replied the bold Ulysses, "and you will see that we are no thieves. We are Greek soldiers returning from the war at Troy. We are

Guest
Host

your guests, and you are our host; and we beg you to treat us as guests should be treated. We ask this in the name of the God Zeus. For it is a law of our God, Zeus, that a host should be faithful to his guests, and the guests should be faithful to their host."

"I know nothing of host or guests, nor of your God, Zeus," replied the Cyclops. "We Cyclopes consider

ourselves better and mightier than your Gods, Zeus and all the rest . . . . Where have you left your vessel ? "

(Vessel) . .



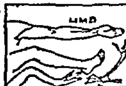
(Intention)

Ulysses understood the **intention** of the Cyclops in asking where their vessel had been left,—for his intention was to break it so that they might not escape. Therefore he answered, " We have no vessel ; for our vessel was destroyed in the foul weather, and only these dozen bold men have escaped."

E

The Cyclops answered nothing, but he caught up two of the men and dashed them to the ground. Then he tore them **limb** from limb and ate them, swallowing great bowls of milk between.

Limb . . . .



Dreadful

When Ulysses beheld this **dreadful** deed, seeing his men torn limb from limb, he could only weep and pray to Zeus that he might find out a way to kill this dreadful creature.

Stretch

The Cyclops finished his dreadful meal ; then he stretched himself out on a rough bed among the sheep, and slept. As Ulysses beheld him sleeping there, he stretched out his hand to kill him. But, being very wise, he remembered

that, if he were to kill him, they would all die a dreadful death;—for by what means could they move away the great rock which blocked the entrance of the cave? So Ulysses and his men stretched out their weary limbs on the floor of the cave, and slept till morning.

Flock . . .

When morning came the Cyclops awoke. He first milked his flocks; then he stretched out his hand, and seized one more man, and ate him for breakfast. Then he drove out his flocks to the pasture, and put back the great rock on the entrance of the cave, even as a man would put the cover on a little box.



All that day the wise Ulysses was considering what he could do to save himself and his companions from their dreadful fate. Finally he thought of a plan.



F

Pole

-en (Straighten)

Now there was a long pole in the cave, which the Cyclops had brought meaning to use it for walking. But the wood of the pole was green, so the Cyclops had put the pole in the cave to dry it and straighten it.

(Short-en) **(Sharp-en)** **(Hard-en)**

Ulysses took this pole and cut a piece of it to shorten it. Then he took his axe and began to sharpen the end. Then he dragged it to the fire, and put the sharp point in the flames to harden it.

(To flame)

In the evening the Cyclops came back from the pasture. He drove the flocks into their pens, and blocked up the entrance of the cave with the great rock. Then he sat down by the flaming fire and ate two of the men for his supper. As he was finishing his foul feast, Ulysses came forward bringing the skin of wine, and said,—

Accept

"Accept this, O Cyclops, and behold what precious things we had in our ship. No one will in the future come to you with such good things, if you do not accept them as your guests, and behave to them as a good host should do."

The Cyclops accepted the gift: he held out his bowl, and Ulysses poured wine into it until it was full and flowing over. He drank and was greatly pleased.

"I will accept more of that gift," he said; "and you may tell me your name; for I will give you such a present as a host should give to his guests. And gladly will you accept my gift. . . . . This is indeed a noble wine such as the Gods might accept in heaven!"

Then Ulysses filled the bowl again,

Effect and the Cyclops drank it, for he did not know what would be the **effect** of this strong wine. Three times Ulysses filled the bowl, and three times the Cyclops drank it, not knowing what the effect would be. But Ulysses knew what would be the effect, and therefore he gave the Cyclops more and more wine. Soon the effect of the wine began to show itself. For the great eye in the Cyclops' forehead began to close in sleep.

(Now that-) Then Ulysses said, "O Cyclops, you asked my name. Behold, my name is No Man; and **now that** you know my name, you should give me the gift which you promised."

Then the Cyclops answered, "My gift is this,—that I will eat you last of all your company." And, so saying, he fell back asleep.

G

To cheer Then Ulysses began to **cheer** his companions, saying, "Be of good cheer, for the time has now come when you will be delivered."

(Cheerful) Cheered by his words they stood round him and **cheerfully** prepared to fulfil his orders.

Glow The flames of the fire had died down and the burnt logs were **glowing** red.

Tip They took the pole and pushed the tip of it into the fire where the burning wood glowed brightest



At last the tip of the pole also began to glow and burn. Then they carried the pole and pushed the glowing tip into the eye of the Cyclops—for he had but one eye, and that was in the middle of his forehead.

Roar

The Cyclops leapt up with a dreadful roar. He tore the pole from his eye. He roared aloud so that all the Cyclopes on the mountain-side heard him and came hurrying to his cave.

"What has happened to you?" they shouted from outside. "Why do you make this dreadful roaring in the still night, driving away sleep? Is anybody stealing your flocks, or your young lambs, or your kids? Is some one trying to murder you or to do you harm?"

Murder . .



The Cyclops answered, "No Man is doing me harm. No Man is murdering me!"

"Then," answered they, "if no man is murdering you, nor doing you any harm, we cannot help you. The Gods send us illness to punish us and we must accept that punishment cheerfully. You should pray to the Gods

Punish (Punishment)

for help to bear your punishment more cheerfully—and more quietly."

So saying, they departed. Ulysses was pleased at the success of his trick when he said that his name was No Man; and he was delighted because he had punished the Cyclops so successfully for the murder of his companions.

H



(Doorway) . . . When day dawned the Cyclops took away the great rock from the doorway of the cave. Then he sat down in the doorway stretching out his hands to prevent the men within the cave from escaping; for he feared that they might attempt to go out among the flocks of sheep and goats.

Prevent

When the men saw the Cyclops thus preventing them from leaving the cave, they began to feel less cheerful. For how could they escape with the Cyclops sitting in the doorway, preventing them from going out?

Then Ulysses began to consider what could be done: and at last he made a plan.—Some of the goats of the Cyclops were very large and strong. The Cyclops' bed was made of thick string.



String . . .

Bind . . .

Now Ulysses' plan was to **bind** his men under the goats with the string from the Cyclops' bed. Then the Cyclops would feel the backs of the goats, but he would not know that the men were bound under them with string.

Under-neath

So Ulysses chose eight of the largest and strongest goats, and proceeded to bind his men **underneath** them, using the string from the Cyclops' bed. Then he bound himself underneath the largest goat of all, the leader of the flock.

Anxious

Morning had now come and the goats rushed forth to the pasture, carrying a man bound underneath each of them. The Cyclops sat in the doorway anxiously feeling the back of each animal as it passed,—but he did not think of feeling underneath. Last of all came the largest of the goats, underneath which Ulysses himself was bound. The Cyclops said anxiously, "You are the leader of the flock; why is it that you come last of all through the doorway? Are you anxious about your master, because No Man has destroyed his eye? I wish you could speak and tell me where he is hiding."

While the Cyclops was saying this, Ulysses felt very anxious; but at last

Loose (Loosen) the Cyclops let the goat loose from his hands and it ran through the doorway. Ulysses quickly loosened himself, and then went and let loose his *companions.* As soon as all had been loosened, they hastened to the ship, driving the goats before them.

I

The men guarding the vessel had been very anxious. They were delighted to see their companions safe; but, when they heard what had happened to the **Moan** others, they began to moan and weep for their lost companions.

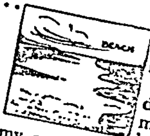
Then Ulysses said, "Why do you make this noise of moaning and weeping? I think it to be their good **Fortune** fortune that they have died still seeking new things. Would you have it your fortune that you should die in your beds, desiring no longer to live? I **Fortunate** consider those fortunate who are cut off when the thirst of living is not yet satisfied. Let this be my fortune, rather than to go out from life as a late guest who has wearied his host by his long staying. Cease therefore this moaning. For if the Cyclops hears it he will follow us, and we shall indeed be fortunate if we escape him."

Then they climbed into the ship,

To row . .



Beach . . .



Deserve

and sat in their places and began to row. When they had rowed about a hundred yards from the beach, Ulysses stood up in the ship and shouted,—

"Well did you deserve your punishment, Cyclops, for having foully murdered my companions. Nor was that all the punishment which you deserve for so dreadful a murder. May the God give you all that you have deserved."

Curse

J

Then the Cyclops cursed them aloud. And he broke off a great piece of rock and threw it in the direction from which he had heard the voice. It fell in front of the ship and a great wave arose and threw the vessel back onto the beach. Then Ulysses took a long pole and pushed off the vessel from the beach. When they had rowed out twice as far as before, Ulysses boldly stood up again and said,—

"If you wish to know whom you should curse, I will tell you. I am Ulysses, the son of Laertes, dwelling in Ithaca."

Then the Cyclops cursed him saying, "May you never see your home in Ithaca again." And he threw another great rock, which almost fell upon the ship. Then the men rowed hard and came to the other island, and they found the other ships and their companions waiting there.

Sacrifice.



Then Ulysses made a great **sacrifice**, sacrificing one goat to the gods for each of the men whose lives had been saved. And the largest of the goats, which had carried him out of the cave, he sacrificed for himself.

Then they feasted. And after the feast they lay upon the beach and slept.

You now know 1552 words

5. POEM—"ULYSSES"

EXPLANATION

Ulysses is old. He is weary of sitting by the fire-side in Ithaca. He feels the "wander-thirst" and cannot rest from travel.

It is evening. He calls his men

together and speaks to them calling upon them to set forth on a voyage with him again :—

Twinkle — "The day is fading towards evening : the lights of the houses **twinkle** on the rocks. The moon is rising into the sky. The deep (sea) moans round about us with the voices of many waves.

('Tis) **Strive** — Come my friends ; we are not too old to set forth again : 'tis (it is) not too late for us to strive once more to discover new lands. Push off the ship from the shore. Sit in your places and row. My purpose (my intention) is fixed. I intend to sail

Bath — beyond the sunset, beyond the place on the horizon where the stars seem to go down into the sea, as into a bath. I shall sail on and on until I die.

Abide **Will** — Much of the strength of our youth is gone from us ; but much of our strength abides with us still. We are,—as you see us,—weakened by time, but strong in will. We are determined to seek, to strive, and never yield."

THE POEM—"ULYSSES"

BY LORD ALFRED TENNYSON

The lights begin to twinkle from the rocks :
The long day fades : the slow moon climbs : the deep
Moans round with many voices—Come, my friends
'Tis not too late to seek a newer world.

together and speaks to them calling upon them to set forth on a voyage with him again :—

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Bath down into the sea, as into a **bath**. I shall sail on and on until I die.

Much of the strength of our youth is gone from us ; but much of our strength

Abide **abides** with us still. We are,—as you see us,—weakened by time, but strong

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Twinkle

('Tis)
Strive

Bath

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Abide
Will

THE POEM—"ULYSSES"

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Moans round with many voices—Come, my friends
'Tis not too late to seek a newer world.

Push off, and, sitting well in order, strike
The sounding waters; for my purpose holds
To sail beyond the sunset, and the baths
Of all the western stars, until I die—
Though much is taken, much abides; and though
We are not now that strength which in old days
Moved earth and heaven; that which we are, we are—
Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will
To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

Note:—Original line 2, Wanes; 5, Smite; 6, Furrows.

You now know 1557 words

Cottage . .
Border



6. THE Cottage ON THE Border

A

A PLAY IN ONE Scene

Scene



The scene is the inside of a cottage. The cottage stands in England, near the border b e t w e e n England and Scotland. The date is May 22 in the year 1660.

The country is in a state of war.—The Roundheads[1] killed the former King, Charles the First, and since then have been ruling England themselves. The people now desire to have their King back again. Charles the Second (son of Charles the First) is expected to arrive in Scotland within a few days. The King's soldiers are gathering on the Scotch (Scottish) side of the border: the Roundhead soldiers are collecting on the English side of the border with the intention of preventing Charles from crossing the border.

Scotch (Scottish)



SCENE—A COTTAGE ON THE SCOTTISH BORDER

The time is evening. The window is open, and the wild country *of the*

[1] 'Roundhead' was a name given to the enemies of King Charles because they always had their hair cut short.

Candle . .



Scottish border is seen faintly outside. On the table in the centre of the room there are two candles; one candle is burning; the other candle has not been lit. The table is ready for supper. From outside is heard the sound of someone cutting wood.

PERSONS IN THE PLAY ....

An Old Man.
The Boy,—his grandson.
An Officer of the King's army.
Two Roundhead soldiers.

B

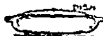
The boy—(eating a piece of bread near the table). Are you coming, Grandfather? I'm getting hungry.

Grandfather—(from outside). Is supper ready yet?

Boy.—Yes, it has been ready for hours and hours. I'm so hungry.

(All right) *Gr.*—All right; I'm coming. (*The old man enters carrying an axe and some small logs for the fire*). Well, what have you got for my supper to-night. (*The boy brings in a*

Dish . . .



dish *and then lights the other* c a n d l e.) My leg is very bad again with all this walking. (*He draws the dish towards him, takes*

Spoon . . .
(To help,
A helping)



his spoon and gives the boy a helping.)

Gr.—What have you been doing all day? Did you go out at all while I was away ? (*The old man takes his spoon and helps himself from the dish.*)

Boy.—Yes, I went to the top of the hill.

Gr.—Tell me, did you see anything ?

Boy.—Yes, I did. I saw some horsemen very far away.

Gr.—Which way ? Where did you see them ?

(Over there) *Boy.*—Over there. (*He points over his shoulder with his spoon.*)

Gr.—(*Quickly, with his spoon half way to his mouth.*) Which way were they going ? Tell me !

Boy.—I don't know. I only saw them for a moment against the sky. I wonder what they were doing over there. It is rather odd.—Don't you think it odd ?

Odd

Gr.—No, it's not odd. I know who they are ; they're Roundheads. I went over the border to-day. They are saying in Applebie that the Roundheads are somewhere near. A shepherd saw some in the hills last night, sitting round their camp fire.—But it's odd that they should come so near the border, with the

Drill . . . .



King's men drilling in Applebie. It's odd—very odd.

Boy.—But *that's* odd, too—that the King's men should be drilling in Applebie. Why are they drilling there?

Gr.—(*carefully*). Oh—they are making ready. . . . Who knows what odd things may happen in a week's time?

Boy.—I wish I could see them drilling. (*He moves towards the door.*)

Gr.—(*anxiously*). Where are you going?

Boy.—I'm only going outside.

Fetch

Gr.—No, no. Not to-night.—Who will fetch me anything I may need? My leg is bad to-night. Fetch me a light for my pipe, will you?

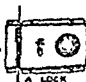
Boy.—Oh, all right. (*He fetches a piece of paper from the side-table, lights it in the candle, and gives it to the old man.*)

Gr.—I don't want the Roundheads to get you too.

Boy.—I wasn't meaning to go far, Grandfather.

C

A Lock . .
To lock





Gr.—Is the door locked?

Boy.—No, I haven't locked up the house yet.

Nod

Gr.—Lock it. (*The boy locks the door, and shuts the window.*) Now come here—Would you like to be told a great secret? (*The boy* nods.) Do you remember when the King went away? (*He nods again.*) You remember that I told you that, some day, he would come back?—Well, I was right. Why do you think the soldiers are drilling in Applebie?

Boy.—Oh, I know now! The King is coming back! Isn't he?

Gr.—(*nods*). Yes. Before a week is over, the King will have landed on the Scottish shore.

(To land)
Excite
(Excited)



Boy.—(**excited**). Will there be a fight? What will you do, Grandfather?

Gr.—Now, don't get excited. People who get excited aren't of any use in a fight.

Boy.—(*trying to hide his* excitement). Do you think they'll come here?

Gr.—No, I don't think they'll come so near the border. But if they do, we'll be ready for them, you and I,—that is, if you'll keep calm and not get excited. Now just help me. Fetch the swords and the pistol, and get some rag. We

Rag . . . .



To polish



must polish them. (*The boy fetches the swords and the pistol and a piece of rag. The old man tears off a bit of rag and begins to clean and polish the pistol.*) You take a bit of this rag and polish the sword-blades.

Boy.—(*takes the rag and begins to polish.*) Did you ever kill anyone with that pistol, Grandfather?

D

Memory

Gr.—Ah yes. This pistol brings memories back to me. Yes, I killed a man once with it.

Boy.—Was that when my father was killed?

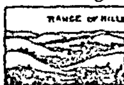
(The memory)

Gr.—Yes; that was a day! (*Old times come back to his* memory. *As he speaks he becomes more and more excited by his memories and talks to himself. The boy has heard this tale*

Scarce (Scarcely)

many times before, and scarcely *listens.*) It was only a small party, for men were scarce in those days of the war. Your father was commanding them. They were riding

Range . . .



over that range of hills over there to look for Roundheads. They came on a large



Chase (To give chase) . .

party of Roundheads suddenly. They fled, because the Roundheads were too many for them. The Roundheads gave chase. And a fine chase it was, all over the range. Up and down the hills they rode, with the Roundheads chasing them. They came down that slope there, with the Roundheads still in chase,—very near now. I saw their horses slipping on the



To slip

loose stones. Your father stopped a moment to tell us to lock the door and stay inside. Scarcely had he mounted his horse again, when I heard a shot. I saw him slip from the saddle and fall. I unlocked the door and ran out. A Roundhead was standing with a smoking pistol. He was just within range. I seized the pistol from your father's hand. The Roundhead turned off the road to chase the others. He was now almost out of range. I aimed steadily, and fired. He

Range

Steady

slipped from the saddle, but his foot was caught, and the horse dragged him.

E

Boy.—Do show me how to load a pistol properly.

(Very well) *Gr.*—Very well, bring me the powder and shot. It is careful loading that gives you good range.
(Shot)

Boy.—No, let me do it. You're doing it all yourself.

Gr.—Very well. (*The boy tries to load.*)

Gr.—If you take all night, the Roundheads 'll be here before you're ready.



Boy.—Now let me fire it.

Gr.—No, some one might hear us.

Boy.—Then let me aim it, to see if my hand is steady. I'll aim at that dish.

To lean *Gr.*—Very well. (*The boy puts the dish on the side table and* leans *it against the wall. He stands in front of his Grandfather, leaning against his knee. The old man leans forward and steadies the boy's hand. A loud knocking is heard. The old man seizes a sword.*)

Gr.—Now, steady. Don't get excited. (*He looks out of the window.*) It's a wounded man. He's leaning against the wall outside.

Boy.—(*whispering.*) Is it a Roundhead ?

Gr.—Roundhead or no, I'm going to open the door.

(*He unlocks the door. The boy keeps the pistol steadily aimed at the doorway. A King's Officer enters. He is wounded, and leans against the table.*)



Officer.—God save the King !

Gr.—Steady now. Steady !—He's going to faint. Quick ! Lock the door ! (*just as the boy locks the door, the Officer slips to the floor in a faint. They drag him to a chair and give him water. He begins to* recover.)

To faint

Recover

Gr.—Look, he's been shot in the shoulder. He's recovering now. This is the Roundhead's work: they must be somewhere near.

F

Officer.—(*not yet quite recovered*). Let me go ! You haven't got me yet, curse you ! Let me go !

Gr.—Steady, steady ! We're King's men here.

Officer.—(*beginning to recover his memory*). Where am I . . . I must have fainted.

Gr.—(*A sudden fear strikes him.*) Were you seen coming here ?

Officer.—They must have seen me; it was bright moonlight.

Conceal

Boy.—Then we must **conceal** him.

Gr.—Conceal him? How can we conceal him? No, we must fight for it!

Officer.—They must be near now. I must go on. I must reach the border, . . . I've lost my pistol! (*He attempts to stand.*) My shoulder! . . My memory is coming back now. When I got to the top of that range of hills, the moon came from behind a cloud. Some Roundheads, concealed in the bushes, must have seen me. I heard two shots, and felt a pain in my shoulder. Then my horse **bolted**. I could not **control** it at all. Away I went on the bolting horse right over the hill, till I saw this cottage below me. Then I began to get some control over the horse. I controlled it enough to bring it somewhere near your cottage; then suddenly it slipped, and fell: and I dragged myself to your door. . . . . But hurry: they will be here any moment.

To bolt
Control

(Slip)



Gr.—(*taking control*). Now you, boy, slip outside and conceal yourself among the bushes. W a t c h them coming down the slope, and **warn** us. The warning shall be a **whistle**.

Warn
whistle

Whistle once to warn us when you first see them, and whistle twice when they pass the big stone. Then we'll be warned, and be ready for them.

Officer.—No, wait. I don't want you to get into any danger. Let me go now.

Gr.—You would scarcely get any distance before you fainted again.

Boy.—May I come back and use the pistol?

Gr.—No. After you have whistled and given us the warning, go as quickly as you can and get into safety. Go to Applebie. You'll be safest there. Run along, and don't get caught. (*He kisses the boy.*) You'll see the soldiers drilling in Applebie.

G

Peep . . . .



Boy.—(*peeping out of the door*). It's all quiet over there. Are you coming soon, Grandfather?

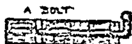
Gr.—Perhaps.

(*The Officer goes to kiss the boy, who holds back; so he shakes hands instead, smiling.*)

Officer.—Goodbye—and good fortune. (*The boy peeps out of the door again; then slips out quietly into the dark.*)

To bolt

Officer.—We had better bolt that door. (*He examines the doors.*) That is a

(A bolt) 

good strong bolt there: that will hold. There is no bolt on this door here, but the lock is good; that will stop them for a time.

(To hand) *(The old man brings the swords.* He **hands** *one to the Officer. He takes the pistol himself and walks about the room. The Officer sits*

(To face) **facing** *the window. The old man turns anxiously and faces the window also.)*



(Blow out) *Gr.*—I wonder if the moon is shining: the boy might be seen, as you were. I'll blow out the candles, and just peep out to see if there is a moon.

(Dark-en) *(He hands the pistol to the Officer; then he turns down the lamp, blows out the candles, and* **darkens** *the room. Then he unbolts the window and opens it. The Officer hands him back the pistol.)*

Hush *Gr.*—Hush. *(He peeps out.)* There is a bright moon shining. Every shadow looks like a man. He must be nearly there now. . . . There's a hush outside,—so quiet, as if something was going to happen.

Risk (Risk-y) *Officer.*—Shut that window. It's too risky. We are not out of range of the hill. With that moon shining, there is a risk that they might get in a shot at long range. It is not

worth risking that. (*The Officer shuts and bolts the window : then he lights one candle.*)

H

In spite of *Gr.*—I don't think there is much risk of that, **in spite of** the moon. That is why I sent the boy. (*His fear increases in spite of himself.*) And yet . . . . do you think. . . .? No, there can't be any risk. That boy knows every path. He could get through in spite of twenty moons, and yet . . . .

Officer.—What ?

Gr.—His father was shot by the Roundheads, out there on the road. And, ever since then, I've been afraid—afraid in spite of my judgment. Do you think I could risk the son being killed too ? (*He sits down and bows his head in his hands.*) I couldn't risk his being killed in this little house like a rat in a trap.



Rat . . . .

Trap . . .



Officer.—Rats in a trap. Yes, that's just what we are here; we shall be trapped like rats if they come. You were right not to let the boy risk it.—But, if the worst happens, we might draw them onto us. We might them see us, and come here, then *he* would get away safel

Gr.—Oh, I'm sure he'll be safe. He can hide in those bushes like a rat in the corn, so that I can't find him myself.

Officer.—Then don't let us think of it any more.—Why, they may not have tracked me at all.

(To track)

(*The Officer lights the other candle. A whistle is heard.*)

Gr.—Hush !

Pause

(*After a moment's* pause *there is a shot.*)

Gr.—What's that ? (*He goes to the door at the back. The Officer stands in his way.*) Let me alone : I must go to him.

I

Im-possible

Officer.—No, that's **impossible** : you can't go there. It's impossible to go through that door now without being seen.

Gr.—What do I care for possible or impossible ? I must go ! (*He struggles to unfasten the door.*) This door is shut fast. It is impossible to unfasten it.

Fast
(Fasten)

Officer.—(*helping him to unfasten the door.*) You've forgotten this. (*He hands him the pistol.*)

(What about ?)

Gr.—(*pausing for a moment.*) What about you ?

Officer.—Oh, the wounded rat in a trap fights with his teeth !

Gr.—I can't take the pistol, and leave you here. It's impossible.

Officer.—Hurry: what about the boy?

Gr.—Goodbye. (*He goes out. The Officer fastens the door; then, feeling faint, he sits down.*)

Officer.—I should have gone. (*He tries to rise, but falls back with a moan.*) It's impossible. (*Pause.*) He must have found the boy by now . . . But what about that moon? They might be caught before they reach the border. I must just peep out. (*He blows out the candles and unfastens the window.*) Ah, that's bad: there's the moon. He'll be seen C (*Pause.*) What's that flashing there? There! Another flash! It's the moonlight flashing on a gun. They are coming this way. (*A shout is heard.*) The Roundheads have stopped. They have seen him. (*He runs towards the door, nearly falls from weakness, but recovers himself.*) I can't do it. Another minute, and they'll be caught.

Flash

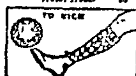
J

(*A sudden thought comes to him. He lights the candles and turns up the flame of the lamp. Then he unfastens the window, and leans out, with the light on his face. There is a flash on the hill-side, and a shot breaks the*

Throat
Murmur

window. He puts his hand to his **throat.** *There is a pause; then a* **murmur** *of voices. He shuts the window. The murmur is heard again, louder. He tries to drag the table in front of the door. Then, slowly, he slips to the floor. The murmur is l o u d e r. Someone*

Kick . . .



kicks *at the door. The door is kicked down, and two Roundheads enter.)*

1st R.—Here he is. Bring the lamp. What was the fool doing at the window?

2nd R.—You would think he wanted to get himself shot!

2nd R.—(*examining the body.*) Dead. Shot in the throat.

(A pity that)

1st R.—It is **a pity that** we missed the other two.

2nd R.—They'll be over the border by now. Yes, it's a pity.

1st R.—(*kicking the body.*) Let him wait till King Charles comes.

(*They go out laughing. The murmur of their voices dies away.*)

Curtain.

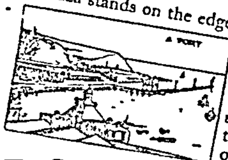
(*Re-told from the Perse Play-books, by permission of Mr. Caldwell Cook and the Headmaster of the Perse School, Cambridge.*)

You now know 1601 words

7. CROSSING THE DESERT

A

Port. . . . Gaza stands on the edge of the desert.



As a port is to the sea, so is Gaza to the desert; it is the port of the desert.

Camel . .

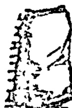


The camel is the ship of the desert; at Port Gaza you hire your ship (your camel); at Port Gaza you collect your stores of food for the voyage.

A couple
(Agreement)
To own

In a couple of days I was ready to start. My agreement with the men who owned the camels was that I should reach Cairo within ten days. I hired four camels, one for my goods, a couple for my servants, and one for myself. Four men, the owners of the camels, came with me on foot. I took a small tent, a couple of sacks of dried bread,

A sack . .



a couple of bottles of wine, a couple of goat-skins full of water, also tea, sugar, some meat and a jar of butter. There was also a sack of coal, for there is no wood to be had in the desert.



B

A pack .. The camel goes down on her knees when her pack is being put on to her. For a time she will allow the packing to go on. But when she begins to imagine that her owner is packing more than is just onto her poor back, she turns round her long neck, and gazes sadly at the increasing size of her pack,—and sighs. If sighs do not move her owner to pity, she can weep. And if a camel's sighs and tears cannot move you, you must have a heart of stone, for her sighs and her tears are as gentle and sad as those of a wife.—You soon learn to pity, and then to love the camel for her womanlike ways.

(To pack).



Sigh

The camel has a strange and uncomfortable manner of walking. She swings forward both the legs on one side. Then she swings round her shoulder. Then she swings forward the two legs on the other side. The rider is first swung one way; then he is swung the other way. It is an odd and rather unpleasant

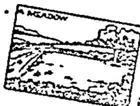
Swing

(Swung)

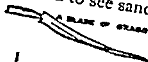
movement: but one gets used to it in time.

For several miles beyond Gaza the (Fresh-en) land, freshened by the rains of last week,

Meadow . . . was covered with grass like a meadow, thickly jewelled with meadow-flowers. I began to fear that this journey across the "Burning Sands" would be no more than a ride through meadows. But, as I advanced, the meadows ceased. By evening I was pleased to see sand all around me, except for a few blades of grass and the small desert-plants which are the accustomed food of the camel.


A MEADOW

(Blade of grass . . .


A BLADE OF GRASS

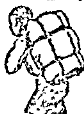

AN ARAB

C

Arab . . . (To en-camp)

Before sunset I came to a camp of the Arabs, and I decided to encamp there. My tent was set among theirs. I was now among the real people of the desert. The Arabs are fine fellows, but they are very thin. They have large solemn eyes, and their faces show painful thought and long suffering. Their manner of walking is strangely royal; they march along with

a couple of bottles of wine, a couple of goat-skins full of water, also tea, sugar, some meat and a jar of butter. There was also a sack of coal, for there is no wood to be had in the desert.


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their simple cloth as if they were wearing royal garments.

In passing through the desert you will find your Arabs wanting to start and to rest at all sorts of odd times. They like to start off at one o'clock in the morning and to rest during the whole of the afternoon. I tried this plan once, and found it very unpleasant; for it is easier to bear the heat of the afternoon sun on the height of your camel than hiding in a blazing hot tent.

Assure **Terms** **Bargain**

My Arabs had assured me that they would bring all the food which they needed for themselves. These had been the **terms** of our **bargain**.

Share **(Amongst)**

When we encamped the first night, the other Arabs gave them food. On the evening of the second day they came to my servant, Demetri, and assured him that they had brought no food at all, and that they depended entirely on **sharing** my supplies. I had brought no more food than was necessary for my couple of servants. I believed that the Arabs had really mistaken the terms of the bargain. I did not want them to suffer, so I told Demetri to assure them that my bread would be equally shared amongst all. Demetri did not like the idea of giving the Arabs a share of his food: he assured me that the Arabs thoroughly understood the bargain; and, if they had not brought food, they had done so for the purpose of improving

their bargain by saving the cost of their own supplies.

This made me look at the matter in a new way. So I ordered Demetri to tell them that they would get no share of my bread.

D

We stopped, and encamped for the night. The Arabs came to me and prayed loudly for bread. I refused them.

To lay

"Then we shall lay ourselves down and die," said they.

"God's will be done," I replied.

They talked a great deal. They looked hard upon my face, but they found no hope there. So at last they went away—to lay themselves down and die—(as they pretended.)



They did not lay themselves down to die: for in about ten minutes from this time I found that they were busily baking their bread.—They had assured me that they had brought no flour; but this was untrue, for they had a large sack of flour hidden away under other goods on one of the camels.

Bake . . .

Flour

skin glows. All that you can see is the net of the silk which veils your eyes from the blazing glory of the outer light. On you toil,—and on.

At last the descending sun softly touches your right arm, and throws your long shadow over the sand. Then again you can look upon the face of the sun, for his glory is veiled in his beauty; the redness of flames has become the redness of roses.

F

Choice
Sink
(Has sunk)
(Sank)
Quantity

Now begins your time of rest. The world about you is all your own. You may make your choice and set your tent where you please. There is no living thing to stand against your choice.—I make my choice: an Arab touches my camel and utters a curious sound, which is an order to her to sink to the ground. The beast instantly understands and sinks down. As soon as the beast has sunk to the ground, I get down gladly enough. (The other camels sank down at the same moment and their packs are already being unloaded.) A small quantity of food is given to the camels from my stores: but, if there is any quantity of those desert bushes which they eat, they are merely turned loose to find what they can.

My servants busy themselves getting ready the tent and lighting a fire. I walk away, east or west according to my choice, using the print of my foot as a guide for my return.

(Has sprung) Midst

When I reach the camp again, I find that a home has **sprung** up for me in the **midst** of the desert. My servants bring me tea and a small quantity of bread. The Arabs are busy baking.

* * * *

Scatter

Day dawns, cold and grey. Clothes, sacks, bags, and all the hundred things which were **scattered** on the ground about me, are taken away. The scattered camels come together, and their loads are packed onto them. Last of all my tent is struck. I give back to the desert the little spot of ground in its midst which for one night has glowed with the cheerfulness of a home. All that remains is the mark of my London made shoes and the scattered coals of the fire in the midst of the unending sands.

G

After the fifth day of my journey I no longer travelled over hills, but came

just as it had been in Holland. They even wanted the bricks of their cottages to be the same: they brought bricks from Holland to build the houses in their American village. So the cottages in this American village were built of Dutch bricks, and they were made just on the plan of Dutch cottages. Indeed the whole village was just in every way a Dutch village set down on American soil.

Brick . . .

American

Many years went by. The snows of many winters and the heats of many summers left their mark on the pretty Dutch bricks. The cottages did not look as new as they had done. *In the* oldest-looking cottage of all, which in fact was almost a ruin, dwelt Rip van Winkle.

(In fact)

Rip was one of those very friendly people who are never too busy to listen to other people's troubles. He was one of those kindly people, always ready to help any one in a difficulty. In fact he was a very neighbourly man, for his neighbour's business interested him quite as much as his own—or more so.

-ly (Friend-ly)

(Kind-ly)

(Neigh-bour-ly)

B

All the children loved Rip; and so did their parents. The parents loved him because he was always ready to listen and always eager to help.

Parent

Peculiar Toy . . . . But the children loved him most of all, for he made most **peculiar** toys for them,—nicer toys than their own parents could make or even buy.



And he told them most exciting stories about fairies and

Witch witches and all sorts of nice things. If ever a child was ill, there would come a knock at the door, and in would come Rip with some peculiar toy of his own making; and there he would sit, telling tales about wizards with long beards, and witches flying through the air—that peculiar sort of story which is terrible—and yet rather nice!



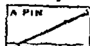
Now it is a peculiar thing that the only person who did not seem to love Rip van Winkle was Mrs. van Winkle. When Rip came home and told her how

Repair Damage he had been **repairing** Farmer Gilpin's damaged wall, she would say, "Why don't you repair your own damaged fence?" When he repaired the roof of an old woman's cottage which had been damaged by the wind, Mrs. van Winkle said, "Why do you trouble with that old witch's house, when your own home has been damaged far more?"

C

In fact Mrs. van Winkle had a bad temper; and the hard work she did, looking after the children and looking after the house, made her temper worse. She looked after the children's food well and she kept the house clean, but she never repaired the children's clothes. They were the most peculiar sight, all dressed up in the cast-off clothes of their parents, and all covered with pins. Young Rip van Winkle, the eldest son of Mr. Rip van Winkle, wore his father's cast-off coat held up off the ground at the back with pins. The others wore various rags held together in various places with pins. And whenever they tore their clothes, Mrs. van Winkle put in more pins. In fact one began to wonder whether in time they would come to be dressed entirely in pins and nothing else!

Temper
(Look after)
(Cast-off)
Pin . . . .



Yet they were all very happy and good-tempered. Perhaps the happiest member of the family was Wolf, Rip's dog.

When Mrs. van Winkle's temper was worse than usual, Rip used to take his gun, and go off with Wolf for a whole day in the Catskill mountains . . . .

D

Autumn

It was **autumn**. The morning was fine and golden as only an autumn morning can be. Autumn gold was in the sunlight, and autumn gold coloured the trees.

Mrs. van Winkle's temper was particularly bad that morning. So Rip took his gun, whistled to Wolf, and went off for a day on the mountains. He wandered about for many hours. At last, as night began to draw near, he sat down at the top of a cliff, and watched the beautiful autumn evening closing in over the valley beneath. At last he sighed, knowing that it was time to return and **make the best of** Mrs. van Winkle's bad temper.

(Make the best of)

Just as he rose to his feet he heard some one call, "Rip van Winkle!" He looked round, but saw nothing. He thought that his ears must have deceived him. At the same instant Wolf began to **bark**,—and it was not his usual bark, which was a friendly sort of greeting: this was a peculiar bark. It was a bark of fear, and Wolf's hair stood up on end as if he were in the **presence** of some dreadful thing.



To bark .

Presence
Howl

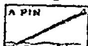
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To bark

Presence

Howl

And then Wolf began to **howl**.

Rip turned. The call came a second time, " Rip van Winkle ! " Wolf howled

even more loudly, as he sometimes howled in the presence of Mrs. van Winkle when she was very angry. Rip began to feel just a little afraid himself, as if he were in the presence of some peculiar and rather terrible thing that was not a man,—not *alive!*

E

Wolf had ceased howling now. His eyes were fixed on some rocks near by. Then Rip saw a shadowy figure toiling towards him among the rocks. It was carrying some very heavy object on its back.

"Poor old fellow," said Rip, "I had better go and help him." So he started off. But, when he came near to the stranger, he stopped in surprise; for he had never seen any one so peculiar-looking.


A DWARF

Dwarf

It was a little dwarf dressed as the Dutch people used to dress over two hundred years ago.


WAIST

Waist

The dwarf had a short coat coming down to his waist, and round his waist was a broad leather waist-band.


BARREL

Barrel

On his shoulder he carried a barrel. The barrel was as big as the little fellow himself.

Bend . . .



"Let me take that barrel," said Rip **bending** down to the little dwarf—for, if the little man had stood up straight, his head would hardly have reached Rip's waist: but now his

(Bent)

back was **bent** with the weight of the barrel, and he stood no higher than Rip's knee.

Rip bent down and took one end of the barrel in his hands, and the dwarf took the other end on his shoulder. In this way they climbed up along the dry

(Bed of stream)

bed of a mountain stream.

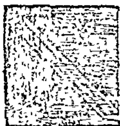
(Roll)

As they climbed, thunder rolled about them; the rolling thunder did not seem to issue from the sky, but from a narrow crack in the rocks in front of them where the bed of the stream ended.

F

Hollow

Passing through the crack in the rock, Rip found himself in a **hollow** place shut in by steep mountains.



This hollow was so covered in by trees that it would be completely concealed from anyone walking on the mountains. The sun was setting and its bright

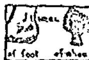
Beam . . . light)

beams of golden light lit up the mountain tops; yet so thick were the branches above the hollow

that no beam of light could enter there. The hollow was lit by the red beams of light proceeding from a great fire of logs burning in its centre.

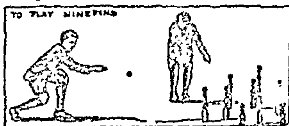
Rip found himself in the presence of a number of dwarfs,—about a dozen and a half, or two dozen. They all wore short coats bound about the waist with leather waist-bands, and they had shoes with

Heel . . .



very high heels. They had long beards and large noses. The dwarf who appeared to be the leader had a high hat with a red feather and shoes with very high red heels. Rip wondered how they could climb the rough mountain paths with such high heels.

Nine-pins) The dwarfs were playing **ninepins**, silently and without a smile.



When Rip entered, with the dwarf close at his heels, they all turned and gazed at him. They did not bid him

Welcome welcome. In fact Rip did not feel that he was very welcome. They just looked at him—such a peculiar look as Rip had never seen on the face of any living person. He felt his blood run cold.

"I . . . I hope," said Rip, "that

I am not unwelcome here;—but this *gentleman brought me* . . . ."

The dwarf signed to him to be silent. He pointed him to some large drinking-pots standing near the fire, and Rip understood that he was to fill them up from the barrel. The dwarfs came and emptied the pots as soon as they had been filled. Then they went back to their game of ninepins seeming just as solemn and sad as before.

Courage Rip's **courage** had completely departed when the dwarfs gazed at him in that peculiar way; but, when they went back to their game, some of his courage began to return to him. He thought that perhaps it might further increase his courage if he helped himself to a drink from the barrel.

He filled a large drinking pot, and drank *it off*. *As soon as* he had done so, his eyes became very heavy.

He fell to the ground sunk in a deep sleep.

* * * *

G

Glitter It was early morning. Bright dew-drops glittered on the grass, like the diamonds glittering upon a queen's garment. Every flower and leaf was jewelled with glittering drops. A light mist lay in soft



A curl . . . . curls over the valley below. The **(To curl)** cottage-roofs glittered in the sun beams

and from their chimneys smoke curled lazily into the bright still air.

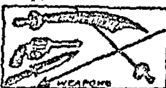
Rip awoke.

He had been lying curled upon the grass near the spot where he first met the dwarf.

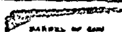
"Have I really slept here all *night*?" he murmured. "What a *temper my* wife will be in!"

He sat up. He began to remember —the dwarfs with their high heeled shoes playing nine-pins, the barrel, and the drink which he had swallowed.

"It was that drink which put me to sleep," he said.



Weapon. .



Barrel . . . (of gun)

He stood up and began to *look for* his gun. *In place* of the well-polished weapon with its shining barrel, he saw a useless old weapon, its barrel red with decay.

"Those dwarfs have played a trick on me!" he cried. "*They have taken* away my gun and left this old *weapon* in its place."

He *looked* round *him*. "*Where's* Wolf?" he said. He whistled; but there came no answering bark.



Joint . . .

"Very well," said Rip; "he'll come back later. I'll just go and get my own gun."

As he began to walk he found that his joints were

Stiff

very painful and stiff. Indeed he was so stiff in the joints that he could hardly move; he was so stiff that he had the greatest difficulty in making his way over the rocks.

"Sleeping out in the open seems to be bad for the joints," he said: "I'm so stiff that I can hardly move my limbs."

H

With many moans and curses at his stiffness he went up the hill. But the place seemed to have altered. Everything was altered; the dry bed of the stream had vanished; there was now a great mass of water dashing over the rocks. The crack through which he had passed had vanished also, and the whole scene was completely altered; for now he saw a great waterfall curling over the top of the rock, and falling with constant thunder in a cloud of glittering mist.

Alter

Vanish

(Waterfall) . . .





"Surely this was the place," he said; "but the path is altered, and

the crack has vanished; and Wolf has vanished. I don't understand !—I shall go home."

As he drew near to the village he met several people, but he was *surprised* to find that he could not recognize any of them.

Recognize

"Where can they have come from?" he said. "I did not think that there were three people for miles round *whom* I should not recognize. Can it be that some ship has been wrecked on the coast? Perhaps these are foreign people who were on the wreck, and they have come up here for help.—But why should there be a wreck when there was no storm in the night? And yet they must be foreigners, for their clothes have a peculiar foreign *look*."

Wreck . .

Foreign . .



(Foreigner)



Cheek . . .

The foreigners kept gazing at Rip and stroking their *cheeks*.

"They seem to think me as foreign as I think them," said Rip. "Why do they all stroke their cheeks, or point to their cheeks, when they look *at me*? Is there anything the matter with my cheeks?"

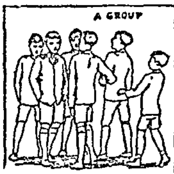
(The matter with)

He put up his hand to his cheek to discover what was the matter. Indeed

Serious — there was something very **seriously** the matter,—for he had grown a beard a foot long.

I

Group . . — When Rip entered the village street a **group** of children were soon at his heels. He could not recognize any of them, but his eyes lost their serious and frightened look. Whenever Rip went down the village street he was always welcomed by a group of children, and he loved their bright cheeks and happy faces. But this group of children seemed altered. Instead of the smiles and shouts of joy which welcomed him formerly, these children shouted rudely and pointed at his beard.



Familiar — Then indeed Rip's courage began to fail. *What was the matter with everything?* Why had all the **familiar** things altered so much in one night? Even the village itself, no longer seemed familiar:—it was bigger; familiar fields

were now full of houses; familiar houses had vanished and new ones had sprung up in their place.

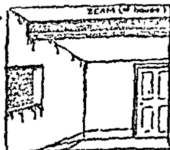
He tried to find the way to his own house, but the road no longer seemed familiar. At last he came to a path which he recognized. He stopped,

Scold expecting to hear his wife scolding,—scolding the children, or scolding the servant, or scolding somebody; and he knew that he was going to get a good scolding himself for being out all night. But there was silence. As he drew

Shock nearer he received a terrible shock,—for he saw that the house was

(In ruins) in ruins.

Beam . . .



The pretty oak beams on the front of the house were white with age; the beams of the roof had decayed, and the roof itself had fallen down. The glass of the windows was broken. The walls were a hollow shell. A dog was wandering round among the fallen bricks and decaying beams. Rip whistled to it: it howled, and ran away. Was it Wolf?—Rip never knew.

He shouted the names of his wife and children. There was silence. A terrible fear came over him.

Inn . . . .



"I'll go to the **inn**," he said. "I'll get a drink at the inn to make me feel better after this shock; and perhaps my old friend, Nicholas Vedder, the inn-keeper, will be able to tell me what's the matter with everybody and everything."

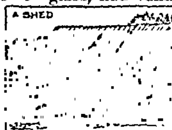
J

So he hastened to the village inn. But when he reached it, he had another shock; for the old inn building, with its fine oak beams and pretty windows of **diamond**-shaped glass, had vanished. In its place he saw a **shed**, a ... wooden ... and over ... of the ... painted,

(Diamond shape) . .

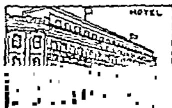


A shed



The
Union Hotel

Hotel . . .



The pretty old inn-building was changed into a shed, and the ... was altered ... "Inn" to ... tel".

After gazing at the hotel, Rip turned to the group of men who were standing in front of it. One very serious-looking fellow was making

A speech



a **speech**, while the others were listening. When the speech was finished they all began to talk; but the manner

(Speech)

of their **speech** was strangely unfamiliar, [illegible] their speech was [illegible] things of which Rip had never heard.

Then Rip noticed people looking at him and talking about him. He heard

Mention

one of them **mention** his beard; another mentioned his clothes; another mentioned his gun. At last one of them turned to him and asked, "Who are you?"

"I am a poor man," answered Rip "a quiet, loyal man; and I have come to look for some friends who used to meet me every day at this inn."

"Will you mention the names of any of them?" said the serious man who had been making the speech.

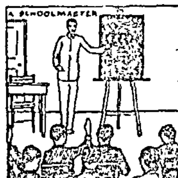
"Well," said Rip, "there was Nicholas Vedder, the innkeeper."

"Nicholas Vedder! Why, he has been dead these eighteen years!"

"And Brom Dutcher," continued Rip.

"He went as a soldier during the war and never came back."

(Schoolmaster) "And Van Arummel, the schoolmaster," said Rip.



"He became an officer during the war, and now he's a great man in the city."

K

Despair Rip uttered a cry of **despair**:—

"Does nobody know Rip van Winkle?"

"Rip van Winkle!" answered two or three at once, "Why, of course we do: there is Rip van Winkle, leaning against that tree."

Rip looked, and grew more despairing than ever. For what he saw was—himself, himself as he had been yesterday when he went up the mountain,—himself with the rags which he had

Gay worn with such **gay** heart then.

"And what is your name?" asked the serious man.

"God knows!" cried Rip in his despair. "I don't know who I am. I am somebody else. That's me yonder—that fellow looking so gay in spite of his rags. I was myself yesterday, gay, and cheerful as he is, but I fell asleep on the Catskill mountains; and they changed my gun, and everything is altered; and I've changed. I

don't know what my name is or who I am."

To burst (Burst) At this a loud murmur burst from the crowd, "He's mad," "He's got a gun," "He'll shoot us," "No, if he fired that old weapon it would burst!" "He's not safe."

Peer . . . 

They peered at him as if he were some strange animal. Several women burst through the crowd so as to peer at the madman with the long beard. Among these was a pleasant-faced woman carrying a baby. The baby was frightened by Rip's look of despair and burst out crying.

"Hush, Rip, hush," said the woman to her child.

L

Rip peered into her face: "What is

Enquire your name?" he enquired.

"Judith Gardiner."

"Who was your father?" he enquired again.

"Ah, poor man, he was Rip van Winkle. But he went away from home just twenty years ago yesterday, taking

Accident his dog and his gun. But some accident must have happened to him. Perhaps he shot himself by accident, or met with some accident in climbing. His dog,

Wolf, was found lying at the door the next morning ! but we shall never know what happened to father."

"And your mother ?" enquired Rip.

"Oh, she got into such a temper one day that she burst a blood-vessel."

Rip threw his arms round his daughter and clasped her closely to him.

To clasp



"I am your father," he cried ; "don't you know me ? Does nobody know old Rip van Winkle ?"

An old woman approached and peered into Rip's face. "Why yes," she said at last, "it is Rip van Winkle, I do declare. Welcome home ! Where have you been these twenty long years ?"

Declare

Rip told his story. But the people declared that they could not believe that a man could sleep for twenty years, and think that it was only one night.

Just then an old man was seen coming along the road.

"Here is Peter Vanderdonk," exclaimed one of the crowd. "He is the oldest person in the village. Let us ask him about it."

Exclaim

"Yes," they all cried, "we'll ask him."

Peter approached. "Why, 'tis Rip van Winkle back again!" he exclaimed, clasping Rip's hand. "I declare I never expected to meet you again, but right glad I am to see you."

M

A hush fell upon the crowd.

"Have you ever heard any strange story, Peter, about the Catskill mountains?" enquired one of the **bystanders** at last.

(Bystand-er)

"Oh yes," exclaimed Peter, "of course I have. My grandfather told me of it. It was Henry Hudson who came over from Holland over two hundred years ago with a **crew** of eighteen men on the good ship 'Half Moon'. He discovered this river and gave it the name,—The Hudson River. My grandfather told me that Henry Hudson and his crew hold a feast every twenty years in the Catskill mountains; and the crew play ninepins there. My grandfather declared that he **actually** saw Henry Hudson and his crew playing ninepins. I can't say that I ever actually saw them; but I declare I did actually hear the sound

Crew . . .



Actual

of the balls rolling one autumn afternoon. Of course anyone, who didn't know the story, might have thought it was only the rolling of thunder. But I know that it was actually Henry Hudson's crew playing ninepins."

To concern (Concerns)

The bystanders began to depart, each to go about his own **concerns.** Rip went with his daughter to her house. Rip's son, whom he had seen leaning against a tree, was supposed to be employed on her farm; but actually he did not **concern** himself much with his own work. Like his father he was much more concerned about other people's business than his own. (For you remember Rip was always more interested in other people's concerns.)

(Concerning)

Concerning Rip there is little more to tell. He soon slipped back into his former life. He gathered about him those of his old friends who were left. But now, as in old days, it was with the children that he was most concerned. And when they became tired of play, he would sit down and tell them the one story of which they never grew weary—the story concerning his night on the Catskill mountains.

(From Washington Irving's "Sketch Book," and the version of Andrew Lang in "The Strange Story Book," Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd.)

You now know 1692 words

9. ROUND THE YEAR

A

The Year

There are three hundred and sixty-five days in one year. These 365 days are divided into twelve months. The names of the months are:—

January	1.	January	31 days.
February	2.	February	28 „
March	3.	March	31 „
April	4.	April	30 „
(May)	5.	May	31 „
June	6.	June	30 „
July	7.	July	31 „
August	8.	August	31 „
September	9.	September	30 „
October	10.	October	31 „
November	11.	November	30 „
December	12.	December	31 „

B

Remember this poem:—

Thirty days has September,
April, June and November;
All the rest have thirty-one,
Except February alone.

February has twenty-eight days; but in every fourth year it is given one

day more. These fourth years are called (Leap year) Leap years. (The reason for this is that you have to *leap* over the other three years to reach them.) In leap years February has Twenty-nine days.

Why has the year 365 days? The reason is that a year is the time taken by the earth to go once round the sun: and that time is about 365 days. I say '*about*' 365 days; for it is not exactly that figure. The correct figure is 365¼ (three hundred and sixty-five and a quarter) days. In order to allow for this quarter of a day, we add one more day to February in every fourth year. In this way man's years are made just the same as real earth-years.

C

The Months

A month is about the time taken by the moon to go once round the earth. The moon actually takes 29½ (twenty-nine and a half) days to go round the earth. So the moon-months are not exactly the same as our months. Some people used to measure time by moon-months; and some still do so. But this is not an easy or comfortable way of measuring time, because twelve moon-months do not make up a real earth-year. Twelve times twenty-nine and a half ($12 \times 29\frac{1}{2}$) is three hundred and fifty-four: ($12 \times 29\frac{1}{2} = 354$): that is, eleven days short of a proper year

(365 − 354 = 11). So most people do not trouble about the moon, but just divide the year into twelve parts.

Twelve does not divide into 365 exactly.

12) 365 (30
360
5

There are five days left; or, in a leap year (366 days), there are six days left.

So we ought to have, in leap years, six months of thirty days each, and six months of thirty-one days each.

We might have this arrangement.		*But actually we have this arrangement.*
January,	31	..
February,	30 (29)*	29 (28)*
March,	31	..
April,	30	..
May,	31	..
June,	30	..
July,	31	..
August,	30	31
September,	31	30
October,	30	31
November,	31	30
December,	30	31

D

This arrangement (which we might have) is very much the same as the arrangement that was actually made at first. I will tell you the reason why it was changed.—It was a very silly reason.

The English names of the months are taken from the **Roman** names; for Julius Cæsar, the ruler of **Rome**, conquered

Roman . .



(Rome) . . . . . .



England. It was Julius Cæsar who arranged the year in six months of thirty-one days, and six of thirty. **Every other** month had thirty days just as I have shown above. The fifth month was named by Julius Cæsar after himself, and it still bears his name, July. For July is the same as Juli-us,—Julius' month.

(Every other)
(Named **after)**

Now the Roman ruler who followed after Julius Cæsar was called Augustus. He said, " One of the months is named after Julius; why should not a month be named after me? The fifth month is named after him; so I'll have the next,—the sixth—month named after me."

So the sixth month was called August, after Augustus. (They had merely been called " Fifth month " and " Sixth month " before.)

Then Augustus discovered that Julius month had thirty-one days, and

his month had only got thirty. So he stole a day from February and put it into his month, August. Hence February became 28-29 days, and August got 31 days. Then the number of days in September, October, November and December was changed so as to try to get the 30-31 arrangement right again. In doing this Augustus undid all the nice, clear, simple arrangement which Julius had made.

E

The Seasons

There are four seasons in the year—Winter, Spring, Summer, Autumn.

In England the Winter is in December, January and February. Spring is in March, April and May. Summer is in June, July and August. Autumn is in September, October and November.

Season	Months	Season	Months
Winter	December January February	Summer	June July August
Spring	March April May	Autumn	September October November

In England the weather is very uncertain. Sometimes the spring is almost as cold and wintry as December; sometimes winter days are

(Wint(e)r-y)

as warm as the spring. So you must not think of the English seasons as fixed and **regular** like the seasons in India or in Africa. The word regular means "according to rule." The weather in India does seem to keep to rules. The great rains come regularly in south-west India at about the middle of June, and continue during July and part of August. In September the rains have ended and the weather is hot and unpleasant. Then regularly about October the weather begins to become cool, and remains cool till March. April and May are very hot. And regularly in June the rains come again. In other parts of India the weather is slightly different, but in all parts there is some **regularity** and one knows what to expect. But there is no such regularity about the weather in England. It will be hot for a few days, and then very cold. And you never know when it will rain; the rain comes, on and off, all the year.

Regular

(Regularity)

F

The English Winter (December, January, February)

There is **frost** at night, and the next morning everything is jewelled with ice. The trees and grass are **frosted** over and glitter like diamonds. The

Frost

(Frosted)

Sheet. . .

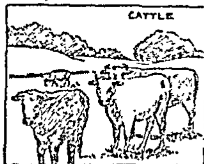


lake is covered with a sheet of ice. When the sheet of ice is thick, men and children are seen playing on it.

Snow falls and the whole country is covered with *a sheet of* white. The branches of the trees are loaded with snow, and break with its weight. There

Cattle . .

Shelter



are no cattle in the fields: they are all in shelter in the cattle-sheds. The air is so cold that men are glad to get back to the shelter of their houses and the warm fire.

Melt

The snow melts. The sheet of ice on the river breaks, and great pieces of melting ice are carried away by the stream. The river is filled with the water of the melting snow. The melted snow has made the roads wet and dirty. Every brook is running with water and melting snow and broken ice.

G

Spring (March, April, May)

The days become warmer. The cattle come out from their shelter in the sheds

and are seen in the meadows again. The voices of birds are heard in the woods, and flowers begin to peep up from the ground. The trees, made bare by the winter cold, put forth their leaves again. This is a busy time for the farmer; he goes out with his seed for the crops, which will grow in the summer, and be gathered in the autumn. The men are busy in the garden, planting the flowers. The weather is very uncertain: one minute it is bright sunlight; and the next, one has to run for shelter from the rain.

Crop

H

Summer (June, July, August)

The sky is deep blue; the sun is blazing. The cattle seek the shade. The garden is full of blossoms. Green crops are standing in the fields; the apple trees are covered with blossom promising a rich crop of fruit in the autumn. All is blossom and promise.

Blossom.

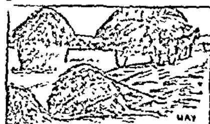


Autumn (September, October, November)

Autumn is perhaps the best part of the year in England. It is the season of harvest. The crops stand

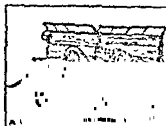
Harvest

golden in the fields ready for harvesting.



Hay. . . .

The apple-trees are bowed with their harvest of fruit. In the hay fields a rich crop of hay stands ready for

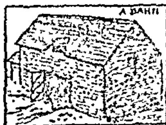


Wagon . .

Along es toil ivy hay- In the meadows the labourers are cutting the hay and loading it onto the wagons.

The corn is cut. The apples are harvested. All day the wagons are toiling homeward through the lanes bearing the treasure of the harvest to the farmer's barns.

Barn . . .



The barns are full. It has been a good harvest this year. There has been a fine crop of corn, a good hay crop; and the fruit has done well. It is not often that the harvest is so good that the farmer has cause to wish that his barns were larger.

The year fades. The nights grow colder. Winter frosts begin again.

> You now know 1716 words

10. RAM AND SITA

A

Praise

Unto Narayan, Lord, all praise be given;
Praise to wise Saraswati, Queen of Heaven;
Praise to Valmiki, sweetest poet of old —
So shall this tale be well and truly told.*

Stands a city great and fair
By the Sarju river's side;
Royal palaces are there,
Noble streets and gardens wide.
And, thirty miles around, a wall
Encircles and protects it all.

(En-circle)

Capital

Grand

On the banks of a great river lay the country of Kosala. The capital of Kosala was the city Ayodhya; it was a very great and grand city. Never did any country possess so grand a capital. There went about it a wall thirty miles long, and within the wall stood great towers and grand palaces and fine streets; and beside every man's door there was a garden.

The ruler of this grand city was King Dasarath; and he was very happy in everything, except one thing,—and that

* Narayan is a name for the Indian God, Vishnu. Saraswati is "Queen of Wisdom". Valmiki is the poet who wrote the from which this story is taken.

Invite
Holy

was that he had no children, not even one. So after many years he **invited** all the wisest and most **holy** men of his kingdom to come to him. And when they came he invited them to help him; for he said, "I, who desire children, have no children, not even one." Then the wise men said, "You should make the holiest of all sacrifices, the Horse sacrifice."

B

Divine

Then the King made the horse sacrifice; and he invited all the holy men to a great feast. Just as the sacrifice was *finished a* **divine** *figure appeared in the* fire of the sacrifice, holding in both hands a vessel containing divine food, and gave it to the King. The King divided this divine food into three parts, and he gave a part to each of his three queens to eat.

After some time the queens bore four sons. Ram was the son of the first queen; Bharat was the son of the second queen; and the third queen had two sons, Lakshman and Satrughna.

-hood
(Boyhood)

Ram to boyhood quickly grew,
Brave and fair and strong and true,
Fair in learning, fair in playing,
Fair in laughing, fair in praying;—
Even such a boy was he,
As a little prince should be.

Ram and his *brothers* were the

Pupil . . . pupils of a very wise and holy man named Visvamitra.



Never did any teacher have such a pupil as Ram, so quick in study, so eager to learn. And Ram's brothers were very good pupils also. Years went by and Ram grew from boyhood up to manhood, and in manhood he was even as he had been in childhood. He was

Keen always **keen**. For his mind was keen as the edge of a sword to cut into the heart of a matter; and his eye was keen to see what others missed. He was

(Keen) keen to learn, keen in playing, keen to serve others.

Men said, "There was never such a

Human prince. He is not **human** but divine."

C

Janak, the King of Videha, had a great bow. It was not made by human hands, but was a divine weapon; and no human hand had been able to bend it. King Janak had a beautiful daughter named Sita; and he said, "I will give my daughter, Sita, in marriage to any man who is able to bend the great bow." Many princes and kings had tried to bend the bow, but none had succeeded. At last the news of this came to Ram; and he said, "Let me also go and try

whether I can bend it."

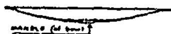
King Janak knew Visvamitra, and he had great respect for him; for he respected him for his wisdom and holiness. And he invited him to a great feast which was being held in Mithila, which was the capital of Videha. And Visvamitra went.

Respect

Ram and Lakshman were still pupils of Visvamitra, although they were grown men, because they respected him so much; and they went with Visvamitra to Mithila. King Janak came forth in a royal carriage drawn by white horses, and greeted his friend Visvamitra with the greatest respect and honour. Then he said, "Who are these youths that are with you?" Visvamitra answered, "These are two sons of Dasarath, and they have come to see the great bow, and to try to bend it."

Carriage

Then the great bow was brought on a special carriage which had been made for it, because it was too heavy for men to lift. The carriage had eight wheels.



Then Ram put his left hand upon the handle of the bow, and he clasped the handle tightly. Then he lifted the bow up out of its carriage, holding it tight by its handle, and held it high above his head for all to see. Then he took the string of the bow in his right hand, holding it between the two fingers and the

Handle . .

Tight

Thumb . . **thumb,** and he drew it tight with



his thumb and two fingers. He drew it till his thumb touched his cheek. And he drew, and drew, till the bow

(To crack) **cracked** across, and fell upon the ground in two pieces; only the string was left hanging upon his thumb.

Then Ram married Sita and there were grand shows and great rejoicings; and every one was invited to a grand feast. Sita had a sister and two

Cousin beautiful **cousins.** Her cousins were the daughters of King Janak's brother. Lakshman married Sita's sister, and Bharat and Satrughna married her cousins.

D

Now Sita was the gentlest and most

Tender **tender** maid that ever lived. Her skin was golden like the corn in harvest; and her cheeks were tender rose like the first sunlight on the mist at dawn. As she was tender and beautiful in herself, so also was she tender in her ways.—

Doth
Magic
Charm

Fair to see and fair to know,
Softly **doth** she come and go,
Making **magic** music sweet
From the jewels on her feet.
Charm is in her magic touch:—
Never princess was there such:
Fair in walking, fair in staying,
Fair in serving, fair in playing—
Who could ever hate her much!

For indeed she cast her magic charm upon all who saw her. Ram loved her with all his heart, and King Dasarath was under her charm also. There was no one that did not love and respect her.

Title

King Dasarath saw how wise and good Ram was, and he decided to give him the title of "Jubaraj". This title means "young king"; and all men know that the prince who bears the title "Jubaraj" will become their King when the old King is dead.

E

To nurse

Many years ago, when King Dasarath was ill, Queen Kaikeyi nursed him. Queen Kaikeyi was the mother of Bharat. The King became seriously ill, and the Queen nursed him very tenderly, watching by him night and day, and doing all that a nurse could do. It was her tender nursing that brought him back to life.



(A nurse)

Debt
(Pay-ment)
Vow

For this reason the King owed her a great debt,—for indeed he owed her his life. As a payment of this debt the King vowed that he would grant any two gifts to her. He vowed that, whatever she might ask, he would grant it. But she had not yet asked anything in payment of the King's debt according to his vow.

When Kaikeyi heard that the King had decided to give to Ram the title of "Jubaraj", she went to him and said, "Did you not make a vow, because of the debt you owed me, that you would give me any two gifts which I might ask ?"

Then the King answered, "I did make such a vow. The debt shall be paid."

Paid

The Queen said, "I ask for my first gift that my son Bharat may be made Jubaraj. And I ask for the second gift that you should send Ram away to dwell in the forest for fourteen years. So shall the debt be fully paid."

Then the King Dasarath cried out, "Oh **cruel** Queen ! Oh Ram !" And he fell upon the floor as if he were dead.

Cruel

F

At first the King would not grant what this cruel woman had asked. But afterwards he said, "I vowed it, and a King may not break his vow." So the cruel order was passed.

When Ram heard of it he was not angry nor sad, but he said, "I am **content**, for it is the duty of a son to see that the debts of his father are paid."

Content (-ed)

Now the people of the city **admired** and respected Ram for his strength and his wisdom and his **justice** to all around

Admire

Justice

him. When they heard that he would be Jubaraj they were contented; for they knew that, when he became King, he would give them justice, peace, and contentment. But when they heard that Ram was to be sent away into the forest, they said, "What justice is there in that? What harm has he done, when all admire him for his goodness?"

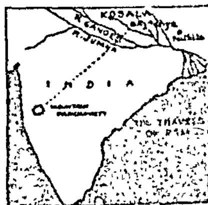
And they murmured and were very discontented.

Lakshman had been the friend of Ram ever since their childhood, for he admired Ram as one boy admires another who is stronger and wiser than he. Therefore he would not be content unless he was allowed to go with Ram into the forest. And Sita went with Ram also.

Orange


AN ORANGE

So Ram put on the orange-coloured dress which is worn by holy men in India, and he went forth; and Lakshman and Sita went with him.



The Gamti river soon they passed,
And to Visala came at last.
The holy Ganges they did see,
And slept that night beneath a tree.
They crossed the Jumna and did spy
A mountain towering to the sky.
They climbed the rocky mountain-side,
Bide — And made a hut, and there did bide.

G

Base / Action — King Dasarath could not forgive the baseness of Kaikeyi, nor could he forget the base **action** to which she had forced him. He was ashamed of his action in driving away the son whom he admired so much. He admired Ram all the more for going so quietly, so contentedly, without any word of anger or **complaint**. Nor would the people forgive his action. Every day King Dasarath seemed to grow older, and sadder. (Complaint)

Sad are old man's thoughts and long.
Sad is the remembering
Of each action weak or wrong,
Of each base and ugly thing,
Of the things one might have done,
Ill — Of the things one did so ill ;—
Thinking at the set of sun,
And at sunrise thinking still.

King Dasarath called his Queens to him and said, "I have done ill. I have treated most ill those who loved me most, and I am full of **sorrow**. Sorrow has dried up my heart as the sun dries up a little lake in summer. I am ready to die." (Sorrow)

Then he cried, "Cruel Kaikeyi ! Oh, Ram ! Oh, Lakshman !"

And he was dead.

H

Absent Now Bharat and Satrughna were absent from Ayodhya when all these events happened.

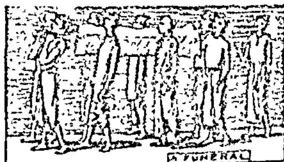
(Absence) Because of their absence they had not heard that Ram had been sent away. Nor had the absent Bharat even heard

Elect that he was elected Jubaraj. When King Dasarath died, a message was hastily sent to them to return.

Bharat returned, and Kaikeyi told him that Ram had been sent away, that he had been elected Jubaraj, and that he would now become king.

Then Bharat answered, "Why was

Consent not my consent asked? I never consented to this. I never consented to being elected Jubaraj; nor would I have consented to driving away Ram into the forest. I will never consent to become King. But, as soon as my father's


A FUNERAL

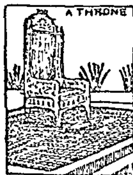
Funeral . .

Perform funeral has been performed, I shall go to Ram and call him back again."

There was great sorrow in the kingdom because of the death of King Dasarath. A very grand funeral was performed, and the King's body was placed on a funeral fire on the river bank. Many holy men were invited to come to the funeral and to assist in performing all the sacrifices.

As soon as the funeral had been performed, Bharat set forth to find Ram. He came to him where he was dwelling, dressed in the orange-coloured dress of a holy man, with Sita and Lakshman on the mountain side. And he said, " You must return to the capital at once, for you are now King." But Ram would not consent to this ; for he said, " I shall not return until I have performed my father's order. I shall not return until I have lived in the forest for fourteen years." Bharat answered, " I will perform the duties of the King during your absence, but I will not sit upon the **throne**, nor will I take the title of King."

Throne . .



Then he took Ram's shoes, and he said, " I shall put these shoes upon the throne, so that all may know that the throne is yours, and that I perform your duties only while you are absent."

I

The King of all the devils was called Ravan. He had a great friend (who was also a devil). The friend was called Marich. Ravan lived at Lanka in Ceylon. He desired to carry off Sita to Ceylon, and to make her his wife. So [illegible]

(Ceylon)



Appearance



Deer . . .

and he put on an orange-coloured dress. He gave to Marich the appearance of a deer. Then they went to the forest where Ram and Sita dwelt.

Sita saw the deer, and asked Ram to catch it for her. Then Ram pursued the deer; but the deer ran very fast, and led Ram far away into the forest. At last, when he was far away, Ram saw that it was not really a deer, but a devil which had taken that appearance. Then he drew back an arrow between the thumb and the two fingers; and he aimed; and he shot the deer as it ran.

But, as the deer died, it made its voice like the voice of Ram, and cried out, "Help, Lakshman, help!" Lakshman thought that it was the voice of Ram, and ran to help him.

So Sita was left alone.

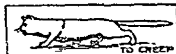
Swift Then Ravan came swiftly to the door of the hut. Sita was deceived by his appearance and his orange garment. She invited him in, and treated him with great respect. As soon as he was inside, he became a devil again. Swiftly he seized Sita and held her tight. Then he carried her up into the air, and bore her swiftly away towards Lanka. There he set her in a park behind his palace.

Park . . .



Sita in the park doth dwell,
Walled and locked and guarded well.
At the gate a devil lies,
Watching her with blood-red eyes.
Hairy forms about her creep,

Creep . .



Gazing at her in her sleep.
Creeping things around her bide,
Never moving from her side.
Dreadful mouths are everywhere
That laugh and laugh at her despair.

J

Ram and Lakshman went in search of Sita. And they came to Sugriv, who was the brother of Bali, King of the

Monkey . .



monkeys. With him there were four very wise monkeys who were his advisers. The wisest of the four was Hanuman.

Ram told Sugriv how Sita had been carried away by the King of the devils, and said, "And I do not know where he has taken her, nor which way she went."



Then Sugriv drew forth a piece of yellow cloth. Now

Skirt . . .

the skirt of Sita had been of yellow cloth, and this cloth was the same as the skirt of Sita. Then Ram knew that Sita had torn off this piece of her skirt as she was carried through the air, and had thrown it down as a sign.

Sugriv's wife had been carried away by Bali, King of the monkeys, and Bali was ruling the monkeys very ill, and there were many complaints against him. So Ram went and killed Bali,

Recover

and recovered Sugriv's wife, and made

Sugriv King. Then Sugriv vowed that he would help Ram to recover Sita; and he sent the very wise Hanuman to find out where Sita was hidden.



(Crept) Hanuman came to Lanka, and crept into the palace of Ravan. He crept into one room after another, looking for Sita. When night came he crept

(A guard) past the guards into the park. And there he saw Sita: he knew that it was Sita because of the piece torn out of her skirt.

He whispered to Sita, "Ram will come soon." Then she took a ring from her finger, and gave it to him as a message.

Hanuman returned to Sugriv and told him what he had seen. Then Sugriv

Folk called all the monkey **folk** together. And the monkey folk came in thousands

Million and **millions**. Millions of monkeys came hurrying from all parts of India.

> Monkeys, black, and brown, and yellow,
> Fine young lad and poor old fellow;
> Monkeys large and monkeys small,
> Fat and thin and short and tall;
> Walking, running, jumping, creeping,
> Swinging from their tails and leaping,
> From the trees and bushes peeping.—
> Each one, hearing the alarm, he
> Hurried forth to join the army.

J

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(A guard)

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Folk

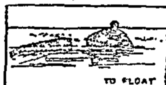
Million

> Monkeys, black, and brown, and yellow,
> Fine young lad and poor old fellow;
> Monkeys large and monkeys small,
> Fat and thin and short and tall;
> Walking, running, jumping, creeping,
> Swinging from their tails and leaping,
> From the trees and bushes peeping.—
> Each one, hearing the alarm, he
> Hurried forth to join the army.

K

So the monkey folk gathered in their millions: and the army of Sugriv set forth; and Ram and Lakshman went with it.

At last they came to the sea,—for Ceylon is an island in the sea,—and they did not know how to cross the water to reach Lanka. Then Ram performed a sacrifice on the sea shore. And the great God Varuna appeared, and said, "There is a monkey named



Nala in the army of Sugriv. Tell him to build a bridge, and it shall **float** upon the water. Everything that is brought to Nala for his bridge shall *float*. Whatever wood or stone he touches, the water will support it."

Float

To support . .



So all the monkeys gathered wood and stone and brought it to Nala. And Nala built a very strong bridge to support the g r e a t army. Everything that he put upon the water floated on the water; and the bridge was supported by the sea as if it were built upon dry land.

Then the army marched over to Lanka.

When they came to Lanka, the monkeys leapt upon the walls, or climbed up supported on each other's backs. Then they threw down one stone after another, so that there was a **shower** of stones falling. Very soon not a part of the wall was left standing.



Shower . .



The army of devils marched out to b a t t l e. But the monkeys showered stones and **trunks** of trees upon them. The devils also tore up tree-trunks and cast them at the monkevs, and showered spears and arrows upon them. Then the monkeys c h a r g e d and attacked the devils with their teeth and **nails**; they tore their skin with their nails, and bit their faces. The devils were torn by the monkeys' nails, bitten to pieces with their teeth, showered with stones and tree-trunks; and they began to give way.

Trunk . . .



Nail . . .

L

Retire

Ravan's soldiers began to **retire**.

Now Ravan had retired to a hill behind the battle-field to watch the fight. When he saw that his army was retiring

A Boy's Prayer

	1. O Lord, thou hast searched me out and known me: Thou knowest my down-sitting and mine up-rising: Thou understandest my thoughts long before.
(Spi-est)	2. Thou art about my path and about my bed, And spiest out all my ways.
Al-together	3. There is not a word in my tongue, But Thou, O Lord, knowest it altogether.
Whither	4. Whither shall I go then from Thy Spirit? Or whither shall I go from Thy presence?
Uttermost	5. If I take the wings of the morning And remain in the uttermost part of the sea, Even there shall Thy hand lead me, And Thy right hand shall cover me.
	6. If I say, 'Let the darkness hide me.' Then shall my night be turned into day; For the darkness is no darkness with Thee;

The night is as clear as the day.—
Darkness and light to Thee are both alike.

Alike

(Thine)

7. My body is **thine** :
Thou didst cover me before I was born.
I will give thanks to Thee.
For I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

8. My bones are not hid from Thee,
Though I was made secretly.
Thine eyes did see me
When I was yet imperfect ;

(Imperfect)

9. And in Thy book
All my limbs are written.

10. Try me, O God, and seek the ground of my heart ;
Prove me, and examine my thoughts ;
Look well if there be anything of evil in me,
And lead me in the way of right.

(Prove)

You now know 1779 words

REVISION EXERCISES.

(*These exercises introduce all the important new words of Reader V. The answers are to be given in the vernacular.*)



A

1. This gentleman's suit was too tight. He tried to stretch it; but, in so doing he tore it. What part of the suit is torn?

2. What time is it by the clock at midnight?



3. The monkey is striving to reach something which is hanging from the tip of the pole. What is he striving to reach?



4. When there is a shower of rain, what do you hold over your head in order that you may not get wet?

5. Which of these three persons has made the handle of the door so sticky?

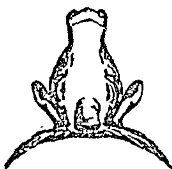
B



1. It is smooth and cold. Large pieces of it block the river in winter. What is it?

2. This boy has slipped off the roof of the house: into what will he fall?

3. "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of." What does "wrought" mean?



4. This is a magic picture; for if you turn it upside-down, it is quite altered. What do you see in the altered picture, when it is upside-down?

5. A shop-keeper has made an agreement to buy a quantity of rags and castoff clothes. According to the terms of his agreement he will pay £1-10s. for each sack of rags and castoff clothes. He has bought three dozen sacks.

(a) Write in figures how many sacks he has bought

(b) How much will he have to pay?

C



1. (*a*) What figure have I put on the waterfall? (*b*) On the bed of the stream? (*c*) On the little shed? (*d*) On the tower? (*e*) On the range of hills? (*f*) On the cart?

2. A man bought a million logs and tree-trunks at ten shillings a hundred.—(*a*) How much money did he have to pay?

   He will sell them £10 a thousand.—(*b*) How much will he gain or lose? (*c*) Has he made a good bargain?—Yes. No. Doubtful.



3. This army has encamped on the slope of a hill. What indication is there that they will instantly have to strike their tents?

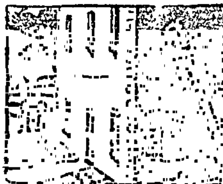
4. (*a*) Write any sound which you hear regularly every hour.

   (*b*) Write anything which happens only once weekly.

   (*c*) Write anything which you do daily.

   (*d*) Write something which you find *only in a leap year.*

   (*e*) Write anything which goes on constantly all day and all night.



5. A hatter was very fortunate in his concerns and he built this large house. As he possessed a quantity of diamonds, he put some guards in charge and told them to look after the diamonds. By what means is a thief entering the house to steal ?

D

1. What does a cat do when you stroke it ?

2. (a) What is the usual title of a hired woman who looks after children ?

   (b) What is the title of a man who controls and guides a ship ?



3. These three children have shared their toys. Which of them has got the worst share ?

4. What had Ulysses got in the skin which he took to the Cyclops' cave ?

5. I once beheld a man chasing a thief. Just as the thief paused before leaping over a stream, the man gave one stroke with his stick and broke the thief's knee-joint.—

(a) What was the thief just going to do ?

(b) What was broken ?

E



1. This lady is packing all her own clothes and her children's garments into a box. What do you think is her intention in so doing?

2. *(a)* Which of these *faces* has the most utterly foolish look?



(b) Which of the faces is rather charming in spite of the wound on the forehead?

(c) Which of the faces seems to show the most will, and has the most determined look?



3. Where do you lay your pen when you have just finished writing?

4. *This silken dress* lacked *a pretty* border. So the lady sent it to a shop to have some pictures made on the border. The result is rather peculiar. What figures *does the border* contain?

5. Cruel Hortense!
Proud Hortense!
She doesn't lack money
But she does lack sense.

Write the numbers of the words which suit Hortense:—

1. Wealthy. 2. Wise. 3. Silly. 4. Poor.

F



1. In which of those three houses would you prefer to live?

2. Write the name of anyone who has a particularly good memory.

3. From what part of your face does your voice issue?

4. Because of his vow the King ill-treated the son whom he loved most.—Write the name of the son who was treated ill.

5. I am hollow and men beat me to make music. What am I?—
   A barrel. A horn. A drum. A box.

ONE DIFFERENT.

Explanation.—In each set of five words there is one word which is different from the others:

Bread Cake Fruit Meat Jewel

'Bread', 'Cake', 'Fruit' and 'Meat' go together, for they are all food; but 'Jewel' is different. Draw a line under 'Jewel':

Bread Cake Fruit Meat Jewel

Try this one:—

Cat Apple Dog Mouse Rat*

G

1.	April	Monday	January	December	August.
2	Dew	Frost	Blossom	Mist	Snow.
3.	Barrel	Vessel	Bowl	Dish	Fountain.
4	Thunder	Utter	Murmur	Silence	Roar.
5	Blaze	Glitter	Darken	Flash	Glow.

*All are names of animals except 'Apple': draw a line under 'Apple'.

H

1.	Judgment	Nurse	Justice	Punish	Deserve.
2.	Kindly	Friendly	Curse	Grateful	Fortunate.
3.	Palace	Castle	Barn	Ancient	Cottage.
4.	Arch	Rag	Brick	Doorway	Beam.
5.	Merry	Cruel	Terror	Despair	Murder.

I

1.	Flock	Folk	Crew	Group	Grand.
2.	Twinkle	Sink	Blaze	Flame	Glory.
3.	Row	Sewing	Nod	Still	Scatter.
4.	Curl	Bend	Straight	Encircle	Arch.
5.	Pasture	Carriage	Meadow	Sheep-pen	Cattle.

J

1.	Harbour	Port	Beach	Tree	Bay.
2.	Peculiar	Wonderful	Strange	Odd	Familiar.
3.	Damage	Repair	Polish	Straighten	Improve.
4.	Throat	Thumb	Knee	Candle	Waist.
5.	Crop	Wintry	Harvest	Hay	Autumn.

K

1.	Host	Inn	Hotel	Weapon	Guest.
2.	Fasten	Bind	Freedom	Trap	Clasp.
3.	Retire	Bold	Courage	Accomplish	Perform.
4.	Advise	Assist	Friendly	Cheer	Prevent.
5.	Title	Rude	Royal	Throne	Sir . . .

L

1.	Cousin	Goat	Camel	Deer	Kid.
2.	Sorry	Serious	Contented	Painful	Risky.
3.	Fine	Tiny	Pin	Dwarf	Huge.
4.	Toil	Weight	Drag	Light	Weary.
5.	Lock	Chain	String	Bolt	Loosen.

M

1.	Bark	Hush	Howl	Moan	Sigh.
2.	Human	Divine	Holy	Angel	God.
3.	Declare	Exclaim	Float	Assure	Consent.
4.	Burst	Damage	Kick	Wreck	Vessel.
5.	Peep	Peer	Gaze	Conceal	Recognise.

N

1.	Bare	Skirt	Fur	Wool	Veil.
2.	Cheek	Forehead	Sense	Limb	Nail.
3.	Disease	A boil	To faint	Health	Funeral.
4.	Foul	Gay	Corrupt	Base	Dreadful.
5.	Exclaim	Beg	Fade	Mention	Consent.

O

1.	Uttermost	Least	Greatest	Very	Most.
2.	Agree	Brothers	Alike	Same	Different.
3.	All	Altogether	None	Entirely	Completely.
4.	Whither ?	Whoever,	Where ?	Why ?	Who ?
5.	4,	8,	20,	16,	22.

PAIRS

Explanation.—Draw a line under the word which makes up the second pair :—

Black White : Bad { Yellow / Grey / Good }   Black White : Bad Good

Dog Bark : Man { Roar / Speech / Howl }   Dog Bark : Man Speech.

Try this :—

Officer Soldiers : Schoolmaster { Pupils / Book* / Army }

*The answer is 'Pupils'; draw a line under 'Pupils'.

P

1. Pen Write : Spoon	Play. Hit. Eat.
2. Park Palace : Garden	Cottage. Blossoms. Road.
3. Love Hate : Forgive	Forget. Admire. Punish.
4. Steady Excited : Calm	Naked. Angry. Tender.
5. Fetch Remove : Call	Welcome. Friend. Send away.

Q

1. Wash White : Bathe	Body. Clean. Dirty.
2. Some None : Somebody.. ..	Anyone. No one. Nobody.
3. Maiden Wife : Boy	Husband. Children. Home.
4. Horns Heel : First	Cow. Sheep. Final.
5. Possible Impossible : Able ..	Keen. Unable. Eager.

R

1. Witch Wizard : Queen .. .. { Crown. / Palace. / King.
2. Drill Soldiers : Teach .. .. { Behave. / Pupils. / Fulfil.
3. Welcome Farewell : Birth .. { Baby. / Anxious. / Funeral.
4. Support Drop : Float .. .. { Sink. / Water. / Ship.
5. Yes No : Accept .. .. { Abide. / Rejoice. / Refuse.

S

1. America American : Holland .. { Roman. / Dutch. / Scotch.
2. King Pardon : Parent .. .. { Scold. / Beat. / Forgive.
3. Claim Beg : Demand .. .. { Ask. / Shelter. / Hope.
4. Praise Blame : Bless .. .. { Lean. / Curse. / Sacrifice.
5. Strange Familiar : Foreign .. { Bystander. / Invited. / Native.

T

1. Real Imagined : Actual ..	..	Paid. In fact. Supposed.
2. Main road Lane : Capital	..	Village. King. Elect.
3. Cause Effect : Heat ..	..	Melt. Snow. Winter.
4. Appear Vanish : Present	..	Movement. Absent. Encamp.
5. Sheet Bed : Snow ..	..	Meadow. White. Melt.

U

1. Stiff Bending : Determined	..	Straight. Uncertain. Hard.
2. Blade Keen : Needle ..	..	Clothes. Diamond. Sharp.
3. An orange Yellow : A rose	..	Green. Red. Leaf.
4. Ball Ninepins : Storm ..	..	Trees. Rain. Roar.
5. Guess Proof : Imagine ..	..	Wonder. Enquire. Know.

V

1. Safe Risky : Urge .. .. { Concern. Warn. Push.
2. Slow Swift : Creep .. .. { Approach. Accident. Dash.
3. Childhood Manhood : Seed .. { Harvest. Earth. Meadow.
4. To own To hire : Home .. { Cottage. Mother. Hotel.
5. Englishman Ship : Arab .. { Camel. Desert. Tent.

W

1. Upper Underneath : Frequent .. { Top. Conceal. Scarce.
2. Debt Payment : Chains .. .. { Loosen. Prison. Owe.
3. Pause Action : Sleep .. .. { Life. Night. Bed.
4. Saddle Leather : Bread .. .. { Bake. Eat. Flour.
5. Action Description : Scene .. { Picture. Beautiful. Country.